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Poetry.

CHRISTMAS IN OLDEN TIME.

Heap on more wood, the wind is chill;
But let it whistle as it will;
We'll keep our Christmas merry still.
And well our Christian sires of old
Loved, when the year its course had rolled,
And brought blithe Christmas back again,
With all its hospitable train.
Domestic and religious rite
Gave honor to the holy night.
On Christmas Eve the bells were rung;
On Christmas Eve the mass was sung;
That only night in all the year
Saw the stolid priest the chalice rear.
The damsel donned her kirtle sheen;
The hall was dressed with holly green;
Forth to the wood did merry men go
To gather in the mistletoe.
Then opened wide the baron's hall
To vassal, tenant, serf and all:
Power laid his rod of rule aside,
And Ceremony doffed his pride;
The heir, with roses in her shoes,
That night might village partner choose;
The lord undergating share
The vulgar game of "post and pair."
All hail with uncontrolled delight,
And general voice the happy night
That to the cottage, as the crown,
Brought tidings of salvation down.
—*Sir Walter Scott.*

PLACE YOUR HAND IN MINE, WIFE.

'Tis five and twenty years to-day
Since we were man and wife—
And that's a tidy slice, I say,
From anybody's life.
And if we want, in looking back,
To feel how time has flown,
There's Jack, you see, my baby Jack,
With wife and kids of his own.
Place your hand in mine, wife—
We've loved each other true,
And still, in shade or shine, wife,
There's love to help us through.

It's not been all smooth sailing, wife—
Not always laughing May!
Sometimes it's been a weary strife
To keep the wolf away.
We've had our little tiffs, my dear;
We've often grieved and sighed;
One lad has cost us many a tear,
Our little baby died.
Place your hand in mine, wife—
We've loved each other true;
And still, in shade or shine, wife,
There's love to help us through.

But, wife, your love along the road
has cleared the roughest spell;
You've borne your half of every load,
And often mine as well.
I've rued full many a foolish thing
Ere well the step I'd left behind;
But, oh! I'd haste to buy the ring
And wed you o'er again.
Place your hand in mine, wife—
We've loved each other true;
And still, in shade or shine, wife,
There's love to help us through.

'Twas you that made me own the hand
That's working all the while,
Always to cunningly understand,
Still bringing right from wrong.
You've kept me brave and kept me true,
You've made me trust and pray;
My gentle evening star are you,
The sunset I the close of day.
Place your hand in mine, wife—
We've loved each other true;
And still, in shade or shine, wife,
There's love to help us through.

MEMORY'S PICTURE.

JOAQUIN MILLER.

I see her now—the fairest thing
That ever mocked man's picturing,
I picture her as one that drew
Aside life's curtain and looked through,
The mists of all life's mystery
As from a wood to open sea.

The soft wide eyes of wonderment
That trusting looked you through and through;
The sweet arched mouth, a bow not bent,
That sent love's arrow swift and true.

That sweet arched mouth! That Orient
Hath not such pearls in all her stores;
Not all her storied, spiced shores
Hath fragrance such as it hath spent.

I picture her as one who knew
How rare is truth—how false pretense—
As one who knew the awful sign
Of death, of life, of the divine
Sweet pity of all loves, all hates
Beneath the iron-footed fates.

I picture her as seeking peace,
And olive leaves and vine-set land;
While strife stood by on either hand,
And wrung the seeds like cresses.
I pictured her in passing rhyme,
As of yet not a part of these—
A woman born above her time,
A woman waiting in her place,
With patient pity on her face.

Her face, her earnest baby face;
Her young face, so uncommon wise—
The tender love-light in her eyes—
Two stars of heaven out of place.

Two stars that sang as stars of gold,
Their silent eloquence of song,
In notes of glory not of earth,
Where God in purple passed along—
That patient, busy face of hers
That won a thousand worshippers!

That silent, pleading face, among
Ten thousand faces just faces just the one
I still shall love when all is done,
And life lies by a harp unstrung.

Our Story Teller.

WHO WOULD IT BE.

It was a bitter cold night in February, snow lying high heaped along the village street, and icicles tinkling in the bleak wind at every gust that swept through the boughs of the old cherry tree in front of our door, while the full moon, shining in the frozen dome of heaven, made the outer world look even more frigid than its actual reality.

The little clock on the mantel—an ancient Japanned toy that once belonged to our grandmother—for we had ancestors, although we were poverty-stricken enough now—had just chimed 8, the faded moreen window curtains were closely drawn, and we were all three of us sitting around the dining-room fire (our parlor was only warmed on state occasions) trying to keep up the caloric, when mamma came in, holding a newly-opened letter, with a sort of scared look on her face.

"Another unpaid bill, mamma?" said I, but she paid no attention to me.

"Girls," said she, "I've got a letter from your Uncle Rudolph. And he's coming to visit us."

I jumped up and clapped my hands. "Splendid," cried I. "I should be thankful for anything to rouse us up, even if it were an earthquake!"

Philippa (our beauty) contracted her dark eyebrows.

"Oh, dear!" cried she, "what a pity it is we haven't got those new Turkey red curtains for the best bed-room."

"Not a decent new dress among the lot of us," groaned Laura. "Mamma, when is he coming?"

"Now. To-night. Probably within an hour."

"Oh, my goodness!" said Philippa, jumping up. "Light a fire in the best parlor, Laura. Polly," to me, "get down the flowered china tea-pot at once. Mamma, I think you'd better open a can of lobsters, and——"

"Quite unnecessary—quite unnecessary," spoke up a gruff voice, just back of mamma's shoulder, and then we all became conscious of a round, red face, like a full harvest moon, a pair of leg-of-mutton whiskers, and a head as bald and smooth and polished as the ball of vegetable ivory on the parlor mantel.

"Uncle Rudolph," we cried in chorus.

"Yes," said Uncle Rudolph, beginning to unroll about six yards of spotted red muffler from around his neck. "Came by the evening train. All I want is a sight of the fire and an old-fashioned bowl of your mother's tea. So you are my three nieces, eh? Come and kiss me."

And this was the off-hand manner in which we became acquainted with the rich and eccentric uncle we had hitherto known only by reputation.

Ye had lived in Sibleyville all our lives, and Uncle Rudolph had been a wanderer over the face of the globe—a far-off and distinguished individual, of whom our mother had spoken reverently, as people all speak of their rich relations.

"A pretty good-looking set of you," remarked Uncle Rudolph, as he viewed us over the edge of his teacup. "Let me see, I think I've got your identity pretty well decided in my mind. This is Philippa, the beauty; this is Laura, the literary one, and this," with a kindly touch of my curls, "is Polly, the one that has no particular vocation, and consequently is set to doing everything. Well, girls, I've brought you each a present."

Philippa's imagination, so she afterward told me, jumped at once to diamonds. Uncle Rudolph might have strung us all over with precious jewels and never missed it out of his wealth. Laura thought, vaguely, of a new set of parlor furniture; I hoped it might be a black silk dress for each of us, not forgetting mamma, whose Sunday-gown was positively shabby.

But Uncle Rudolph's next words dispelled the illusion:

"Here's a $50 bill apiece," said he; "mind, now, you spend it sensibly."

Of course we thanked him and expressed our gratitude in the choicest terms we could select at so short a notice, but our tongues were not fairly loosed until we were in our room at night, crimping our hair and putting away our ribbons and furbelows.

"Mean old hunks!" said Philippa, indignantly. If it had been $500, now, it wouldn't have been so disgraceful. But $50! My gracious!"

"Never mind," said Laura, laughing, as she crouched on the hearth-rug, warming her hands—Laura always contrived to secure the best and snuggest place—"it serves very well for an opening wedge. I mean to study all the old gentleman's peculiarities, and get the blind side of him. Didn't mamma say he meant to adopt one of us? It shall be me."

"It wouldn't hurt him to adopt the whole family," said grumbling Philippa.

"But I wish he didn't talk so abominably through his nose," said Laura, mimicking the old gentleman's peculiar accent with a correctness that sent Philippa off into a peal of laughter.

"Girls!" cried I, jumping up from the foot-stool, where I was twisting my yellow hair over a long hair-pin; "you ought to be ashamed of yourselves!"

"In deed!" pouted Philippa. "Who are you, Miss Polly, to set yourself up in judgment over your eldest sisters, I'd like to know?"

"I don't care," stoutly persisted I, "Uncle Rudolph is a dear, generous-hearted gentleman, and I won't sit here to hear him laughed at. Now you just keep still, both of you!"

"Hateful thing! She's jealous," said Laura. "She can't bear the idea of my being adopted by the rich uncle of the family."

"I don't care a pin whether he adopts you or not," said I, pulling savagely away at my hair. "But I won't hear him made fun of when his back is turned."

"Hush! not another word you, anyhow," said Philippa; "nobody wants such an ugly, wide-mouthed little gnome about their house."

I winked back my tears, Philippa knew that I was sensitive about my mouth when she aimed that wordy shaft so skillfully.

"If you say another word in ridicule of Uncle Ludolph," said I, "I'll go straight to mamma and tell her all!"

"Mamma won't care."

"Mamma will care," said I. "Mamma loves her brother dearly, and she won't allow you to laugh at him."

A sullen silence ensued on the part of my elder sisters. I had gained my point, but they contrived to make it very uncomfortable for me.

However, neither Laura nor Philippa were girls to bear malice very long, and they came down the next morning to help get breakfast, as good-natured as ever.

"Mamma," said Laura, "give me the keys of the blue room and I'll go up for some of the larger napkins. These are mended and darned until they are hardly decent, besides being too small."

"You can't go now," said mamma, she was busy brewing chocolate. "Your Uncle Rudolph is in the blue room. I put him there to sleep because there's a leak in the roof of the best bedroom, and I was afraid it might be a little damp. Why, girls, what's the matter?"

For Philippa had uttered a little shriek, and Laura dropped the double damask table-cloth into the coal-scuttle, while I stood transfixed to the floor

"Uncle Rudolph in the blue room!" Philippa. "Close to ours! With that door between! Laura, he must have heard every word we said!"

And she sat down and began to cry.

Laura looked aghast, but she was quick to recover herself.

"Hush, Philippa," she said. "Don't make a fool of yourself. Here's Uncle Rudolph coming down now. I'm just as sorry as you are, but all the whimpering in the world won't do you any good. We must just make the best of it."

"Girls," said poor, bewildered mamma, "what does all this mean?"

But before we could explain Uncle Rudolph came down stairs, snug, smooth-shaven, and looking as fresh as a winter-pippin.

"Good morning, Sister Rockfield," said he, sitting down opposite the fire. "Good morning, girls. I was talking last night, sister, about adopting one of the three, and making her the heiress to what little I've got to leave."

"Yes?" said mamma, wondering very much what was coming next.

"Well, I've made my choice. This is the one," driving me close to him.

"Not Polly!"

"Yes, Polly. True, she hasn't Phillippa's wax-doll face, nor Laura's quickness of repartee, but I think she'll get fond of me all the same. Philippa thinks me a mean old hunk. Laura don't approve of a way I have of talking through my nose. But Polly stands up for the old gentleman, like a brave girl as she is, with a heart of genuine gold!"

"I'm sure I don't understand what on earth you mean, Brother Rudolph," said mamma, with a puzzled wrinkle between her brows.

"But these girls do," said Uncle Rudolph, with a mischievous roguish sparkles in his eyes. "The next time you've got company staying in the house, young ladies," to Laura and Philippa, "you must do up your confidential conversation in a low tone of voice."

Philippa pouted. Laura hung down her head. Comedy couldn't help it.

"Uncle Rudolph," said I, "I don't want anything that my sisters can't share!"

"But, you see, you haven't any say in this question, miss," retorted Uncle Rudolph, laughing.

So that is the reason that I, little Polly Rockfield, whom my sisters always declare was born for a kitchen-maid, live as the mistress of a house, with a swarm of servants at my beck and call, and Laura and Philippa, who would have graced a ducal castle, keep house together in a cottage. Mamma lives with us; but Uncle Rudolph won't have the girls.

"They don't like my way of talking through my nose," said he. "And I'm too old a dog to learn new tricks at my time of life! No, no! little Polly suits me the best!"

The First in a Musical Way.

Music type was invented in 1502.

The first opera-house was built in 1637, in Venice.

William Billings was the first American composer.

The first American work on harmony appeared in 1769.

The first successful reed organ was made in America in 1840.

Theodore Thomas began giving his Symphony concerts in 1864.

"Psyche," by Lock, was the first English opera, and was produced in 1673.

The first American organ was built by Edward Bromfield, Jr., at Boston, in 1745.

The first concert given in London with audience admitted by payment occurred in 1672.

"The Archers," or the "Mountaineers of Switzerland," was probably the first opera composed in America, and was produced in New York city, April 18, 1795. The words were written by William Dunlop and the music by Benjamin Carr.

A Philosophical Chestnut.

Many years ago—it was when the four Harper brothers were living—a well known physician came into their office one day and was talking with one of them, who noticed that his visitor's coat sleeve was torn. He called his attention to it, saying that it would be well if he would ask his wife to mend it, as if did not look well for a gentleman to go about with his clothes in that condition. "Sir," answered the doctor sternly, "I prefer that it should remain as it is. A tear may be the accident of a day, but a darn is the sign manual of penury."

Forcing "Interpretations" Out of Scripture.

The *Christian Register* says that the following exegesis is not a bit more forced than is often common in dealing with the mysteries of Revelation: "The destructive effects of tobacco are clearly predicted in Revelation ix., 18: 'By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths.' The brimstone, of course, refers to the matches."

In a Philadelphia Sunday-School.

Teacher—Now, children, I am going to tell you about the prophet Daniel, who, though cast into a den of lions—

New Scholar (fresh from New York)—Have you only just got on to that here?—*Tid-Bits.*

PERHAPS A PARABLE.

A Lost Chapter of the Arabian Nights and the Legend of a Chestnut.

A God fearing man and a clever goldsmith was Sidi Ben Abdallah of Muscat. Not only was the old man God-fearing when five times a day he turned his head prayerfully towards Mecca, but also forgot he not the tenets of the Koran, when in his shop he combined the precious metals and weighed the jewels which it pleased his patrons to order. For Sidi Ben Abdallah scorned soldier, he used but one pair of balances, whether buying or selling, and when on a piece of his handiwork was graven his mark, not even the prophet himself could have demanded a rebate for inferior quality.

One afternoon, at the time of our narrative, in eighteen-hundred and-not-long-ago, Sidi Ben Abdallah had finished a beautiful vase. Wrapping a silk cloth carefully about the base, he started out, as was his custom, to deliver it in person. Slowly, and with the dignity becoming a true Mohammedan, he picked his way through the city, staff in one hand, and a vase in the other.

A neighbor greeted him as he passed with:

"Allah shower his blessings upon thee!"

"And give you peace of mind!" rejoined the old man.

"That is a beautiful vase you carry."

"Yes, by God's grace," said Sidi.

"What will you get for it?"

"Three hundred ryalas."

"That's cheap. Allah protect you!" and Sidi Ben Abdallah resumed his way.

Shortly afterward a young merchant happened along. Alighting at a well to water his camel, he threw the bridle over his arm and greeted Sidi, as he approached, with, "By the beard of the Prophet, that is a handsome vase!"

"Yes, by God's grace," repeated the old man.

"And is it expensive?"

"Three hundred riyalas," replied the maker in monotone.

"Not too much, either," said his questioner, leaping upon his camel.

"God's blessing upon your house!"

"So with you," responded Sidi Ben Abdallah, and on his way.

The farther Sidi walked the more people stopped him to admire his handiwork and to ask its price. Now, the old man loved his art and praise of his skill was meat and drink to him; but even honey may cloy on the taste, and the Madeira wine of the infidels was not drunk in goblets. For a long time he preserved his wonted good nature and to each questioner sweetly answered "three hundred riyalas."

"Patience," says the proverb, "is the key to joy," and Sidi would have delivered his handsome vase in safety had he heeded the maxim; but Allah willed it otherwise.

At every step he met admirers. They all put the same question, all received the same answer. But each time, we regret to say, Sidi spoke more curtly. He began to grow impatient at this never changing query, and it was growing late. He hastened his footsteps, but to no avail. Soon that same monotonous flattery and that same inquisitive question greeted his ear.

Sidi Ben Abdallah was a good Mussulman, but only human. We can therefore understand how it was that when for the thirtieth time (by actual count) he was asked the price of his vase, the old man lost his temper, and setting down his burden rushed at his questioner—a sleek young merchant—in a terrible passion. Grasping the hapless wight he knew him to the ground and belabored him with all his might, shouting between the blows: "By Allah! this is the price of my vase; count! count!"

The astonished merchant as soon as he could catch his breath, shrieked with pain, and though they were in the outskirts of the city several passers by came running to his assistance. Among them was a thibatuniya, who at once took Sidi into custody, and all started for the house of the Kadi.

The old man's first thought on regaining his composure was one of sincere regret that he had so far forgotten himself as to strike a fellow creature; his second was one of shame for the undignified plight in which he found himself.

On arriving before the Kadi the merchant told in a few words the story of the unprovoked assault upon him. All present looked coldly upon the prisoner. Assault so once or twice always takes care to set his hat on the back of his head before trying to kiss a girl, and then he has some chance. When a girl sees her companion push his hat to the back of his head she needs to be on her guard. He is bent on mischief."

Not a Newspaper Man, Either.

N. H.—(newly married)—Well, good-by, old man. Come up some night and take dinner with us.

C. B.—Thanks, I will. What hour do you have it?

N. H.—(meditatively)—Oh, sometimes at 6 and sometimes at 7, and then again at half-past 7, and, by Jove, sometimes not till half-past 8.

Back in the Market.

He (at a Chicago evening entertainment)—Do you know that very brilliant-looking woman at the piano, Miss Breezy?

Miss Breezy—Oh, yes, intimately. I will be glad to present you, Mr. Waldo.

He—Thanks. Is she an unmarried lady?

Miss Breezy—Yes, she has been unmarried twice.—*N. Y. Sun.*

Force of Habit.

Swillem, who has been told by his wife to purchase a hand-mirror, enters the store and says to the clerk:

"Ah, writer, give me a looking glass of beer."—*Fun Topics.*

THE CHILDREN'S WORLD.

Fancy, Wit and Sentiment Peculiar to American Child-Life.

A CLOSE PARALLEL.

Bertie and Aunt Eve were whisking along on the street cars, and one of the sights that met their eyes was a little boy holding a drum, while a mite of a girl used the drum-sticks to good advantage. Now Bertie has a little brother and sister who do not get along very well together, and so Aunt Eve remarked:

"Your little brother and sister don't get along as well as that, do they?"

"I don't know," says Bertie, "one holds the cat while the other beats it."—*N. Y. World.*

THE TABLES TURNED.

He is a bright, manly, cherryfaced little fellow, approaching the dignity of eight years, and as a rule well behaved. But the old Adam gets the upper hand now and again, and then his mother has to speak seriously. The other day he had disobeyed her, so she took him on her lap and told him how wrong it was and how badly it made her feel to have him do so. His lip trembled, the corners of his mouth came down, and his eyes began to fill with tears, signs which led her to think that moral suasion had done its work, and that her admonition had struck home when, half sobbing, he said: "Well, anyway, I tih-thought you loved me." What could the mother say to that?

AN ORIGINAL THEORY.

A little 4-year-old boy was standing at the window watching the rain, which, much to his disgust, kept him in the house. Turning to his mother, with puckered brows, he said: "I guess God took a drink and forgot to turn the water off."—*N. Y. Mail.*

SOUNDS OF THE SANCTUARY.

A little miss recently attended religious service where she heard the gospel hymn, "Scatter Seeds of Kindness." one part of which runs as follows:

"Strange that summer skies and sunshine
Never seem one-half so fair
As when winter's snowy pinions
Shake the white down in the air."

On returning home she told her mother such a funny piece had been sung at church.

"My dear, what could that have been?" inquired the interested parent.

"Why, mamma, they were all singing 'shake the night gown in the air.'"—*N. Y. World.*

INTERROGATIVE INSINUATION.

Little Mary M., aged two and one-half sunny years, is learning to talk and picks up everything she hears. A few days ago Judge B. called on Mary's papa, but took no notice of the little one playing about the room. The Judge is wordly and pompous, but little Mary was not a bit afraid of him, and edged herself up to his knee, where she stood regarding him with critical eyes. Pretty soon there was a pause in the conversation, when the baby asked gravely in her high treble voice: "Jub, did 'oo ever dit left?"

SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT.

"We've got a hen that laid two egg in one day," boasted a six-year-old girl to a companion.

"That's nothing! My pa has laid a cornerstone."

HAD BEEN THERE.

On the way he inquired: "Mamma, does God make skunks?"

"Why, yes, Eddie, I suppose he does," was the hesitating answer.

Eddie, after a moment's thought: "Well, if he got a good sniff of one once, I'll bet he'd never make another."

MOVABLE BIRTHDAY.

A small girl was told that she might have a birthday party, and in company with her nurse set out to deliver the invitations in person, a privilege upon which she insisted strenuously. On her return home she was asked if her friends were coming. "Oh, no, mamma," she returned placidly. "I didn't ask them. Mabel Turner is going to-day. Yone got a new one, and I told her I wouldn't have a birthday till she got home, so I didn't ask the others."

TWO FROM THE SCHOOL-ROOM.

A teacher in a city near New York had a small class in easy physiology. They had had several lessons on the ear, and had been so thoroughly drilled on the names and uses of all its parts, that when some visitors dropped in the teacher was glad it happened to be the hour for this class to recite. After asking several questions, and receiving prompt and correct answers, she said: "What is the name of the canal in the ear?"

The child hesitated a moment, and then spoke up loud and plain: "The E-rie canal!"

The visitors thought if she judged by the sound, it was no wonder the child thought the Erie canal ought to be in the ear, and were, perhaps, better pleased than the teacher with the answer.

Another teacher in the same city asked one of her classes the meaning of the word "vicissitude."

"Change," was the reply.

"That is right," said the teacher; "now give me a sentence with the word vicissitude in it."

"My mother sent me to the store to vicissitude a dollar bill."

BABY'S SERMON.

"Poor fall down man in the watef; how sad!" And the baby face became that of a pitying angel, while the little fingers sought in a reverent form in Dore's pictures of the flood. No effort to plunge the poor unfortunate into deeper waters, no reproach for the weakness that failed to stand upright; only pity and a desire to uplift the fallen one. Ah, baby, the most eloquent appeal from ministerial lips were weak beside that pure little sermon of thine.—*California Patron.*

PHYSIOLOGICAL METAPHORS.

Poetical Expressions, but Unfortunately False to Sober Fact.

The following lines express a familiar but always touching sentiment:

"The flush of youth soon passes from the face,
The spells of fancy from the mind depart;
The form may lose its symmetry, its grace,
But time can claim no victory o'er the heart."

It is needless to multiply instances of such expressions as these—literature teems with them, and they are constantly upon our lips.

One almost hesitates to profane such sacred expressions with the hint that they are one and all false to nature; yet such is the hard fact. The heart is not the source or seat of the emotions; it is, on the contrary, one of the most prosaic, although most vital, organs of the body. It is simply a hollowed out muscle, which expands to receive the blood from the veins, and contracts to again propel it through the arteries. It is merely a natural pump, very wonderful and perfect in its structure and mechanism, but still concerned in no higher function than the purely mechanical one of regulating the supply of blood to the various organs of the body. The heart does not feel emotion. It does not warm with love, or burn with hate, or melt with pity, as the poets have so long assured us, and as so many familiar and popular expressions imply. All these emotions have their seat in the brain.—*Chambers's Journal.*

A Hint to Husbands.

The husband who chooses to make the effort will find that when he accords to his wife full knowledge of her individuality, and accustoms her through all the routine of married life to the same gracious courtesy he used to practice at an earlier day, he will have a fearless companion by his side, a women of reflection and judgment, who, having a sense of responsibility and accountability to herself, always the sternest of judges, is an actual helpmeet, a possible champion, a charming friend, a reasonable assistant, a woman with some other entertainment in her than the reflection of his own accustomed thoughts, with some novelty and interest in her, and so he will find his marriage a far finer thing than if he had always a sweet and tiresome little slave at his command. He will find his own position, too, a something loftier one, for he will be the protector and shield and support of one of a nobler order than weaklings, and he gains even in his own esteem by the assumption of that loftier character.

A Devout Answer.

A teacher, not long ago, was explaining to his first reader class the division of things into three, and only three, classes or kingdoms, namely: animal, vegetable, and mineral. After having them classify a number of surrounding objects, he asked a 6-year-old boy the question: "Ernest, to what kingdom do you belong?"

Quick came the shrill, Sunday-school like answer: "To the kingdom of heaven, sir."

SPIRITS OF THE WATER.

Superstitions About Streams and the Genii Who Guard them.

In the "Works and Days of Hesiod" the wrath of the gods is threatened against those who venture to cross a river without first praying, and gazing on the stream, and washing their hands in the clear water. The Russians, before they suffer their horses to ford a stream, take care to mark on it with a knife or other object the sign of the cross in order to escape danger from the resident Vodyany, or water-sprite. For the same reason they generally bathe with a cross hung around their necks; and the same feeling appears all over Europe in the idea (in itself probably a survival of the time when men were regularly sacrificed to rivers) that on certain days of the year certain rivers demand a human victim, and that on those days it is safest to let fishing boats lie idle. A spirit resident near some stepping stones at Clitheroe is supposed once in seven years to demand such a victim, and many a river in Germany levies a more frequent tribute from suffering humanity.

The belief in the power of rivers to avenge any neglect of their prescriptive claims is carried so far in many parts that men will even see a companion drown without attempting to rescue him. The Bohemians are said to observe this custom for fear of the water-spirit driving the fish from their nets or claiming their own bodies in lieu of the person rescued. The Kamschadels go further, for a drowning man being the rightful property of the great sea-god, Mitgk, so great a sin is it to cheat the god of his prey that he who does so is refused shelter, food, wife, and conversation; and, so far from rescuing the drowning man, the bystanders will rather resort, if need be, to assist him in the process; and the same custom is reported of the Malays and the Hindoos.

The Spirit Nut.

A lot of people were staring yesterday forenoon into the sunny window of a curiosity shop on Clay street. The attraction was a lot of little nuts spread on a sheet of paper. They were popping about like things of life.

"What are they?" asked an Eastern lady.

"Chestnuts," ventured an old Californian.

"The proper name for them," said a member of the academy of sciences, "is spirit beans. They're also sometimes called electric beans. There is nothing mysterious about them. They grow in Mexico and Central America. A variety of the ichneumon pierces an almost microscopic hole in the nut with its oviposator and deposits the eggs. From the egg comes a grub that feeds upon the interior of the nut until a space is formed. It is the convulsive motions of the grub which produces the action that astonishes you. Until revived by the heat, the grub lies dormant. If allowed to develop naturally it would eat its way out and become an ichneumon fly, a sort of winged beetle."

"Any charge?" inquired the old Californian.

"None," said the member of the academy of sciences. "Some time, however," he added, "you might like to drop round and see me," and he handed the old Californian a saloon card.—*San Francisco Examiner.*

She Took the Oath Every Day.

A divorce case in which the humorous element largely predominated was that of Henrietta Pauls against Nicholas Pauls, the charge being a species of cruelty. Pauls was of an exceedingly jealous disposition, and in order to insure himself of her fidelity was accustomed to make her get down on her knees daily, and sometimes almost hourly, and repeat the formula: "I swear an oath on my heart and on the children's hearts that I hope the devil will take us all if I have done anything wrong."

"Why did he make you take these vows?" asked the court.

"Well, he would bring men home and introduce them to me, but I didn't dare lift my eyes to look at them. When they were gone he would hiss through his teeth: 'Well, did you look at 'em?'

"'No, I'd say.

"'Yes, you did,'

"'No, I didn't.'

"'Take the oath.'

"Then I'd have to get down and repeat the same old oath that I hadn't even looked at his friends."

The judge smoothed down a smile as he thought of the ludicrousness of the situation, and jotted down some hieroglyphics which indicated that a decree would be granted.—*Chicago Tribune.*

The Origin of "Chestnut."

Mr. Joseph Jefferson is responsible for the latest explanation of the word "chestnut." He attributes the introduction of the word in its slang sense to Mr. William Warren, the veteran comedian of Boston.

"There is a melodrama," Mr. Jefferson said to a *Press* reporter, "but little known to the present generation, written by Willson Dillon and called The Broken Sword. There were two characters in it, one a Capt. Zavier, and the other the comedy part of Pablo. The captain is a sort of Baron Munchausen, and in telling of his exploits says: 'I entered the woods of Collaway, when suddenly from the thick boughs of a cork tree'—Pablo interrupts him with the words: 'A chestnut, captain; a chestnut.' Bah!' replies the captain, 'Booby, I say a cork tree.'

"'A chestnut,' reiterates Pablo. 'I should know as well as you, having heard you tell the tale these 27 times.' William Warren, who had often played the part of Pablo, was at a 'stag' dinner two years ago, when one of the gentlemen present told a story of doubtful age and originality. 'A chestnut,' murmured Mr. Warren, quoting from the play. 'I have heard you tell the tale these 27 times.' The application of the lines pleased the rest of the table, and when the party broke up each helped to spread the story, and Mr. Warren's commentary. An that," concluded Mr. Jefferson, "is what I really believe to be the origin of the word 'chestnut.'"—*Philadelphia Press.*

The Prescription Was Effective.

A Maine clergyman told a friend that he had great difficulty in putting his youngest child to sleep at night. The friend waggishly asked, "Did you ever try the effect of reading one of your sermons to him, doctor?" "Why no," replied the good man, in all seriousness; "I never thought of that?" After his departure the friend's wife remonstrated with him for playing on the simplicity of the reverend gentleman, but was herself scarcely able to restrain her risibles when sometime after the minister called again and remarked: "Oh, do you know that I adopted your husband's suggestion of reading one of my sermons to my boy, and it worked like a charm!"

Very Funny for Tom.

Intimate Friend—Have you been enjoying your honeymoon at Old Point Comfort?

Heiress (lately married)—Yes, we've been there; but, do you know, I overheard Tom tell a friend of his it was "harvest-moon" with him instead of "honeymoon." What do you suppose he meant? Funny, wasn't it?

Friend (knowingly)—Oh, yes, very—for Tom.

To Prevent Headache.

A scientific writer says: "Sleep, if taken at the right moment, will prevent an attack of nervous headache if the subject of such headaches will watch the symptoms of its coming, they can notice that it begins with a feeling of weariness or heaviness. This is the time a sleep of an hour, or even two, as nature guides, will effectually prevent the headache."

Our Debt to Greece.

Our science, our art, our literature, our philosophy, our morality, our politics, our strategy, our diplomacy, our maritime and international law, are Greek in origin. The framework of human culture created by Greece is susceptible of being indefinitely enlarged; but it is complete in its parts. Progress will eternally consist in developing what Greece conceived.—*Ernest Renan.*

She Did Not Care to Go In.

Countryman (gazing at the female statues in window of Bowery musee)—"B'gosh, Mariar, let's go in; it's only ten cents apiece."

Wife—"Come away, John; don't ye know them pictures in front of dime museums is always exaggerated?"—*Epoch.*

Left Them for a Reproach.

Husband—(dressing)—Where in the world are my boots, my dear?

Wife—On the mantlepiece, where you left them last night.

Our New Serial Story.

JOHN DUNCAN'S WIDOW.

BY D. R. LOCKE.

CHAPTER VI.

THE BATTLE ROYAL.

James Murdoch grew strangely nervous and uneasy as the day approached for the trial of his claim against the estate of John Duncan, or rather, for it amounted to that, for possession of the entire estate. He had a feeling of insecurity; a nameless dread of something. It was a shadow, but so dense and black it grew about him that it became as substantial as a rock.

That nameless, impalpable something was Public Opinion. Men who knew John Duncan in his life time, did not believe Murdoch's story. Character is something after all. John Duncan's way of doing business, the even mode of life of the good old man, outweighed in the public mind the strips of paper, with his name appended, which Murdoch held. They did not tell Murdoch that they did not believe him, but there was something in their manner which satisfied him as to the fact.

Then the real object of the prosecution of his suit was well understood, and the time never was in America, when the sympathy of the public did not always settle on the side of the woman. Here was Mary Duncan and her baby—the mother in love with a penniless young lawyer, who should have been her husband to begin with. And, on the other hand was a rich, and consequently, powerful man, attempting to *compel* her to marry him, the alternative being the loss of everything she possessed in the world.

There could be no doubt as to Public Opinion in a matter like this.

Men who had been intimate with him, met him with an attempt at cordiality that was so lamentably a failure that it would have been better had they told him frankly that they believed him to be a scoundrel, and that he was acting a miserably mean part, and one that the people could not and would not sustain him in. Men who had less nerve avoided him altogether, and those who dared put their feelings in their faces.

He felt it keenly. His position had been an enviable one and he disliked losing it. But nevertheless he persisted in the course he had marked out. Love and hate, strangely commingled, pushed him forward. And he believed that success would wipe out the remembrance of the means by which it was achieved, and success he was certain of.

"Why should I fear?" he thought. "I have good and sufficient notes. Their black looks will not change John Duncan's signature—they cannot show his signature is a forgery, and without that, they are helpless. To set up a fraud in defence is easy enough—to prove it is quite another thing. And then, when Mary Duncan is penniless and in want, when old Porter Leigh is deprived not only of the luxuries but the necessities of life, we shall see. She cannot hold out long."

But despite this pleasant arrangement of the matter, in his own mind he was ill at ease, and was not sorry to see Porter Leigh enter his office the morning before the day set for the trial. He hoped that he had come from Mary, and that a way would be found for a settlement of the case without going to the court.

"Murdoch," said the old man, with an eagerness that betrayed his anxiety, "is there no way by which this matter can be arranged without resorting to the law?"

"Do you come from your daughter? Do you speak for her?"

"I do not, Murdoch. She does not know——"

"Then why are you here?" exclaimed Murdoch with the snarl of a disappointed wolf. "Why are you here? I have nothing to do with you! I will not speak with you on the subject. You have nothing to do with it. You know—she knows—the terms on which I will withdraw the suit. Mary Duncan is an interested party—I might talk with her. I will hear anything she chooses to say—I will not hold converse with you on the subject."

"But, my dear Mr. Murdoch, I am interested. From this estate I draw my support—it is my all. If my daughter loses it——"

"You are a beggar—I have finished the sentence for you. Very good. Your daughter should have thought of this before she compelled me to have recourse to the law. She should have thought, not only of you, but her child and herself. I have John Duncan's estate in my grasp and I will take it—every dollar and every cent of it. It will be only in one way and that way you know. The moment Mary Duncan becomes Mary Murdoch, the notes I hold will be destroyed. The property I will settle on herself, her child, you, any one whom the designates—I care nothing about it. But I will not see that property go to the support of Mary Duncan and—Charles Lester—never, never. Should she listen to reason I might go farther. I might be so forgiving as to assist you in the scheme you have set your heart upon, which we had once arranged. You see I bear no malice. But if this is done at all it must be done quickly. To-morrow proceedings begin, and then they terminate the matter closes—forever. If you can do anything in the matter, do it, and do it at once."

As the old man left the room Murdoch was startled to see Markley standing in the door.

"What are you doing there?" he snarled. "Have you been overhearing my conversation with Leigh?"

"I was waiting with these papers for you to sign," replied Markley, "and I did hear a portion of it. I could not avoid it."

"Do you know anything of this claim of mine against the Duncan estate?"

"I do not. I know nothing that is not on my books. *As there is no entry on the books of any money advanced to John Duncan, it must be a transaction outside the regular business of the house.*"

And he turned his face toward Murdoch, with an expression on it that his employer did not understand. It was respectful, but there was a curve of the lip that meant something beside respect. And it troubled him.

Murdoch was not the only man who was troubled. Porter Leigh was as much interested in the matter as was Murdoch. For he never doubted Murdoch's ability to make good his claim, and with that claim, make good, all his hopes and aspirations melted into the air.

The worried old man made one more effort to bring Mary to terms. He set before her not his own troubles, for that did not trouble her any more, but he dwelt upon the terrible disadvantages under which her daughter would labor, deprived of her patrimony—he pictured to her the brilliant career of the child with the ample estate in question, and her helplessness without it, and he begged her for the sake of the child not to stand upon trifles in so serious a matter—a matter of such vital interest.

But it all availed nothing. Her face flushed as she spoke:

"All this misery can be avoided, you say, father, by marrying James Murdoch. Do you suppose I would place my life and my child's in the hands of a man who, to possess me, would steal the provision made by John Duncan for his innocent child? He has set you on to make this proposal. Go back to him, and take this as my final answer. I would rather die of starvation in the streets, and my child with me, than to live in a palace with him. He is a villain—a wretch, and so the villain and as there is any just God it will be made apparent to-morrow. I have no fears."

Porter Leigh did not carry this message to James murdoch. Broken and thoroughly disheartened, he went no more to him.

The trial began the next morning. The court-house in Maitland was never been so crowded since the first day it was dedicated to Justice, for the whole county was interested in the struggle that was to take place. Everybody had known John Duncan, everybody knew James Murdoch, and everybody knew the motive that impelled him to the prosecution of this suit. Everybody knew that he was an unsuccessful suitor for the hand of Mary Leigh—then again for the hand of Mary Duncan. Everybody knew that Charles Lester was the favored man, and that he undertook the case more in the capacity of a lover than he did as a mere paid attorney. And there was a feeling in the heart of everybody that James Murdoch's claim was fraudulent—that it was a scheme, cunningly devised and boldly carried out, to compel a helpless woman to accept him, or to punish her for her refusal. Hence the court-house was crowded, for a case so peculiarly piquant had never been tried in that county.

Porter Leigh was present of course, occupying a seat with his daughter, the defendant. Beside them sat Charles Lester, her counsel, striving to appear calm; but it was apparent to every observer that he was far from being at ease.

In their proper places sat Murdoch and his attorney, Adams. Murdoch wore a hard, defiant expression on his face, which was at once confident and uneasy. He had forged himself in every possible way, but he was too acute a man not to know that a case of this kind was extremely liable to accident.

The case opened by the presentation of the notes held by Murdoch, who in his testimony swore positively that the notes were given to him for a consideration, and that that consideration was money advanced from time to time.

"Where did this money go to—that is, for what purpose was it advanced?" asked Lester in the cross-

Recent Literature.

A tasteful volume is "Meadow Melodies," by Charles F Gerry, which is published by Lee & Shepard, Boston. His poems have for their subjects those things which lie all about him—the old farm, the hills and fields, the apple trees, the old fashioned garden, and all of the other objects which made the pleasure of his boyhood. His songs are true to nature, and in that lie their greatest charm. In all of them are happy touches which arouse the memory and bring back old associations most vividly. The opening poem, "A Day on the Poultry River Meadows," is full of brightness. What a homely picture the following calls up:

Not yet has ceased the robin's trill
In apple orchard on the hill,
And far away in forest drear,
The song of whippoorwill I hear.
As darkness of the night steals on,
The pleasant home lights, one by one,
Gleam out through clustering vines and trees,
And twinkle with the stirring breeze;
While o'er the meadows dark and damp,
The firefly lights his cheerful lamp.

Among the recent publications suitable for presents at Christmas, or any other time, is a volume of original poetry, entitled "Old Homestead Poems," written by Wallace Bruce, and printed by Harper Bros., New York. This is a collection of thought in verse, tender, patriotic, amusing and descriptive—in fact, of all thoughts that naturally belong to such a title. The public is already familiar with Mr. Bruce's verses. Many handsome illustrations enhance the value of the book.

A valuable contribution to the fiction of the season is "Captain MacDonald's daughter," by Archibald Campbell. It is an interesting story, whether one be willing or not to accept the philosophy it teaches—that we are the creatures of inherited tendencies and favorable or unfavorable circumstances. The scenes of the story are laid in Scotland. Then they shift to America, where the heroine worked out her own salvation—or destruction? Who shall say which it was, even after reading the story? The introductory chapters are particularly bright and engaging, with a sprinkling of shrewd Scotch wit on nearly every page. The story ends satisfactorily, the author having correctly seen that there was but one way out for "Nan." Harper Brothers.

"Narka, the Nihilist," from thesame publishers, is a story which has been running as a serial through Harper's *Magazine* and now appears in book form. The author, Kathleen O'Meara, has given here a tale of Russian life, which is well worth reading. It is well written, full of incident, clever in plot, and rapid in movement. A moral which it points is the instructive one that it is a mistaken thing for the rulers and the citizens who think they are best qualified to improve the governmental institutions are the ones who rarely get a chance to do it.

Harper Brothers also issue "Big Wages and How To Earn Them," by a Foreman, which seems to be a plain, sensible talk of a workingman to his fellow-workmen, about those matters in which they are most interested. He endeavors to show them wherein they are right in their complaints, and wherein wrong, and what are the legitimate methods of righting themselves when they are wrong. The style is plain and simple, and yet energetic. The book is one that every workingman should read and read carefully, and when he gets through he will, unless he is pig-headed, see a good many things in a different light from that in which he now views them.

In Protestant countries there has been for centuries only one opinion in regard to the Roman Catholic Inquisition, viz., that it was organized in cold blood, simply to torture and destroy non-Catholics. As a matter of history, however, the Inquisition was the natural, nay, the almost inevitable, evolution of forces at work in state and church in the thirteenth century. The question is fully treated in a work, the first volume of which Harper & Brothers has recently issued, entitled "A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages. The author is Henry Charles Lea. Even without the second and third volumes, now in preparation, this work is one that all well-informed people, not scholars only, will be anxious to see. It is printed in large type, and abounds in notes and references such as a true student loves to meet with. The first volume is devoted to a study of the origin and development of the Inquisitorial Process, and is based upon the most thorough and intelligent survey of all the original sources which of late years have become accessible to historians.

D. Lothrop Company, Boston, issue a little book entitled "Ways for Boys to Make and Do Things." It consists of papers by various authors who remember the time when they were boys, and the sports in which they had the greatest delight. They tell the boys of the present generation how to make kites and boats and tents and snowshoes; how to get the most fun out of walking and skating, with a variety of information and suggestions about other things that every young reader will be thankful for. Price 60 cents.

Funk & Wagnalls, New York, issue "A Bundle of Letters to Busy Girls," by Miss Grace H. Dodge. The letters number twelve and they are on practical matters which enter into the life of girls. Miss Dodge originated what has become a large institution—"Working Girls' Societies," in which every Tuesday evening is devoted to "Practical Talks." These Letters have grown out of those talks. They lay no claim to literary merit. All is subordinated to produce wise, practical and much-needed instruction, in plain, common-sense, brief and wonderfully effective words.

"German Fantasies by French Firesides," by Richard Leander, is published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. The author is among the greatest of German surgeons. During the siege of Paris and the Franco-Prussian war time hung heavily upon the Leander household, and the long evenings and the shades of evening drew nigh, the doctor was accustomed to draw up to his table and picture some of his thoughts for the wife and children at home. At the close of the service, when he was permitted to join the home circle, this beautiful little volume of stories greeted him. They are stories full of tenderness, and will, out of the good in the human soul. The older as well as younger readers will enjoy their fine setting and excellent sentiments.

The third series of "The Best Reading," by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, has made its appearance. It is edited by Lynds E. Jones and comprises the issues of books from December, 1881, to December, 1886. It is like its predecessors, a most excellent help to bookbuyers.

Another publication from the Putnams' recently, is "Half-Hours with the Stars," by Richard A. Proctor, whose name as the author is a guaranty of the excellence of the work. It shows in twelve maps the position for the United States of the principal star groups throughout the year, with an introduction and separate explanation of each map, and it is true for every year. It is both valuable and interesting.

From T. B. Peterson & Brothers, Philadelphia, comes "Who Cares," by Mrs. Harriet N. K. Goff. It is an autobiography written in the form of a novel. It is a reformatory agent but in no degree similar to "Nana." It deals with hard facts, with the design of showing the perils to which unprotected womanhood is exposed in a large city. It is said to be largely the narrative of actual experiences.

Literary Notes.

Scribner's Magazine is to have an Australian edition.

Andrew Lang contributes a long poem to the first number of the *Book Worm*, a new London magazine.

Max O'Rell has a book on Scotchmen and their ways in press in Paris, to be called "L'Ami Macdonald."

Gen. Sheridan is engaged upon a book of reminiscences, in which he will treat of his personal history and his war experience.

Mr. A. Bronson Alcott celebrated his 88th birthday Tuesday. It found him stronger and in better health than for many months past.

Among the beautiful books published by Messrs Ticknor & Co., Boston, are the poetical works of Sir Walter Scott, by W. J. Rolfe, illustrated.

Messrs. H. P. Hubbard & Co., of New Haven, send out their "Blue Book of Leading Newspapers," with much valuable matter in the pages interesting to all advertisers.

Messrs. Ginn & Co., Boston, announce the new edition of "Sievers's Grammar of Old English, translated and edited by Professor Albert S. Cook, of the University of California.

Messrs. Dodd, Mead & Co., have just issued a catalogue of "rare and choice books, principally from the library of a private collector," which will attract the attention of all book-lovers.

Miss Juliet Corson continues her work as a social reformer in books to be issued December 9 by Harper & Brothers. The title, "Family Living on $500 a Year," shows the object Miss Corson had in view in preparing this work. It was to tell a small family how to live cheaply, but well.

Mr. Wm. C. Harris, editor of that excellent journal, the *American Angler*, has for some years been engaged upon a work, "The Fishes of North America." The volume is soon to be issued, illustrated by chrome lithographs. The anglers of America will doubtless welcome the volume from a source so authentic as the one of Mr. Harris.

Harper & Bros. will publish immediately "A Magnificent Plebeian," a clever novel by Miss Julia Magruder, one of the most excellent writers who have sprung up in the South since the war; also a volume by Col. T. W. Higginson, with the inverted title of "Women and Men," containing a selection from the papers which have appeared under that heading during the last few years in *Harper's Bazar*.

"Mr. George Routledge," says the London *Bookseller* of November 5, "has finally retired from business. For several years past, we believe, Mr. Routledge has taken but a small share in the management of the business founded by himself more than 40 years ago. As a mark of respect to the retiring veteran a large number of the London booksellers have resolved to entertain him at a farewell dinner."

One of the late attractions of Demorest's *Monthly* is to give each month a portrait and a sketch of the life of one of the State Presidents of the W. C. T. U. That for December is Mrs. Mary Towne Burt, of New York State.

INTERESTING SURGERY.

Removing a Wen From a Man's Nose and a Mole From a Lady's Shoulder.

A friend was telling me of his own and his wife's experience in having moles and wens removed by electricity. His wife had on her right shoulder a blemish in the the form of a large mole, quite half an inch in diameter, which practically made it impossible for her to wear ball of evening dresses which would reveal her otherwise shapely shoulders. She accidently heard of the electric operations, and, obtaining the address of the surgeon who performs them, she went, she went without her husband's knowledge to his office and submitted to the operation. It required about a week to heal the wound made by the needles with which the mole was perforated in every direction; then the mole, which had been burned to a dry, black crisp, fell off, leaving the shoulder perfectly white, and with only the slightest indentation to show where the discoloration had been. A new skin formed over it and there is hardly a noticeable blemish there now. Success inspired her to insist on her husband's undergoing the same operation on a more delicate part of his person—namely, his nose. He thus tells of his own experience:

"I had on my nose at birth, so I was told, a wen, which grew with the years until I became quite large, and for many years it greatly disfigured my countenance. It was about the size of a pea and was on my left nostril. It changed color from time to time, and would grow to be a sanguinary red whenever I indulged myself with wines or liquors of any sort. I came to regard it at times as a 'gift to bloom,' and an irreverent reporter, in describing me once, suggested that this object had evidently been one of long and patient and costly culture. I went on my wife's urgent appeal to her surgeon and asked him if it could be removed. He looked at it and suggested that it might be if I would not look upon the wine when it is red. I replied him I was born so. He examined further and at once proceeded to operate upon it. He bathed my nose, first of all, in cocaine. It grew cold at first, and then became numb, as though asleep from lack of circulation of the blood. It felt as if paralyzed. He then applied an electric needle to the wen, sticking it through and through, as near the roots as possible. There was no pain, though half an hour was consumed in the operation. Whenever he increased the current of electricity I saw billions of stars, and sparks seemed to flash from my eyes and the eyeballs seemed to crack with each spark that apparently flew from them. When the operation was completed the wen was black, no longer red, and more unsightly than ever. He put flesh colored court-plaster over it and kept it there for about a week. Then in washing it off the mass of blackened flesh fell away. A new skin formed, and now you can barely see a small scar where the unsightly object once was."—*Nashville American.*

Salvini's way of Killing.

Gossip in the Philadelphia North American.

At one time the conversation drifted to Salvini's wonderfully vigorous impersonation of Othello. Quite a few amusing anecdotes were told that related to the Italian tragedian. Mr. Booth said that he had once talked with Salvini on the subject of Othello, in the course of which the Italian remarked that he did not stab Desdemona in the death scene, as he considered it too brutal a death to inflict on a woman.

"And, pray, how do you kill her, simply smother her to death with the pillows and cushions of the bed, and use no other means of ending her life? Do you use no other weapon of any kind?"

"No, was the reply, "I use no weapon, because, as I have said, I think such a method would be too brutal for one to use in killing a woman, but I do not confine myself to simply suffocating her, but in addition to that, break her neck across my knee."

The idea of a dagger thrust in the heart being a more brutal death than the snapping of Desdemona's neck across the brawny knee of her passion crazed lord strikes me as being peculiarly amusing.

Another story regarding Salvini was told by Mr. Furness, who said that on one occasion he called to see the tragedian on the morning after witnessing his Othello. Salvini was not dressed, and sent down word to Mr. Furness to come to his room, and upon entering the apartment the latter had to call together all his powers of self-control to prevent himself bursting out laughing, as the magnificent Moor of the previous evening was sitting on the edge of his bed wearing a night-cap and a huge pair of spectacles, and busily engaged in darning a pair of socks. The tumble from the sublime to the ridiculous was complete.

Birds Will Sing, While Black Cats Mourn.

When last season a young debutante appeared at a fashionable dance in a dress trimmed with a flight of stuffed canaries, and another lady flitted about with parrots' heads glaring at the beholder from all parts of her gorgeous costume, it was thought that the fashion could not go much farther in its use of the "dumb creation." The summit, however, was not yet reached, as the following item of news from Paris plainly shows: "A favorite dress at fancy-dress balls this winter will undoubtedly be the black-cat costume—a low-necked and sleeveless corsage and tunic in gold-yellow satin, cut in one, in the princess style. The latter is looped over a short under-shirt in black velvet, and is bordered with a row of little figures of Napoleon cut out of black velvet. On the left side of the corsage is placed a large stuffed black cat, the tail curving over the wearer's shoulder, while the fore-paws clutch the folds of the animal claw up one side of the overskirt. Long black gloves reaching above the elbows, gold-yellow silk stockings, and black satin slippers complete the toilet." It is bad enough to butcher the birds of the air in the service of fashion, but there is at least some beauty in brilliant and gracefully arranged feathers, while the "large black cats" calls forth nothing but thoughts of ghastly tales of witches and sorcerers.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

WHY WILL YOU STAMMER?

I was an inveterate stammerer for twenty years. I came from Pennsylvania to Chicago to see Dr. Rivenburgh, of the World's Vocal Institute, and was cured of this very annoying affliction in ten weeks' time.—CHAS. H. SADLER, Billsgrove, Box 86. Chicago, Ill.

Write me for further information.
Chicago, Ill., Nov. 30, 1887.

In Hard Luck.

B young man in Tallahassee, Fla., who in calling on his sweetheart stayed until past midnight, found the front door of the house fastened when he was ready to go. He made his exit through a window, and fell into the hands of the town marshal, who mistook him for a burglar and marched him off to the lock-up.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria,
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria,
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria,
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Sudden Changes of Weather cause Throat Diseases. There is no more effectual remedy for Coughs, Colds, etc., than BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. *Sold only in boxes.* Price 25 cts.

OUR WEEKLY SALAD.

When one comes to think of it, twelve hundred dollars is rather a large sum to pay for one costume to be worn, at the most, half a dozen times. As a rule, people of ordinary wealth do not even allow their imaginations to take such a flight up into the figures, and if it is a rare thing for people of enormous means to loosen the purse strings to that extent. But there are women who do have such dresses, though, of course, they are few and far between. New York is the headquarters for magnificent dress on this side of the ocean, but even there a robe to be considered quite "comme il faut" must have been purchased in Paris. Of course it is only among the society women of unlimited wealth any such enormous expenditure on dress is indulged in, though among a large number, to pay three or four hundred dollars for a single costume is not regarded as a great extravagance. One young married society woman of New York spends fifteen thousand dollars a year upon dress alone and no one knows the cost of her jewels. But her husband is a wealthy broker, and her father a millionaire five or six times over, so after all she has a perfect right to spend as much as she chooses so long as she can afford it, that is, if she can fulfil all of her obligations to others, and still pay for such things without embarrassment or wrong.

As a general thing, after a certain amount has been charged for a dress, the rest is simply a fancy price, but people as a rule, are willing to pay a good deal for style and to have the name of a famous dressmaker upon the lining of a garment. There was once a young woman who at one time was fortunate enough to possess a very handsome costume from Arnold & Constable, of New York. The belt to that dress with their stamp on, did duty upon the rest of her choicest attire for years—in fact she used it until there was nothing left but the stamp, and then her friends advised her to have that framed. That one instance serves to show what weight the name of a fashionable costumer carries and how much people will pay for it. There is a great difference between a well-dressed woman and an elegantly dressed woman. With the latter, though we recognize the fact that in her costume are represented a great many dollars and cents, still that is all the impression we receive from it, while a woman who is tastefully dressed and in a manner becoming to her style, will always create more than a passing glance even though her costume is an inexpensive one.

It is a woman's duty to make herself as attractive as possible both in manner and dress, and it is a fact that the latter has a great deal to do with manners. If one is conscious of being pleasing to the eye, it is sure to give a comfortable sensation, to make one look kindly upon the world, and to be kind in the other manner, and he must be acknowledged that dress alone will bring this about. One may have a charming address but it will not win a stranger half so quickly if not combined with attractive attire. Many noble women, who are working for the good of mankind, neglect their personal appearance, making it a secondary consideration, looking upon time spent upon dress as lost. It is, however, a sad mistake, as an attractive presence greatly aids in furthering the cause in which such women are interested, for it is a well-known fact the world is quick to aid that which pleases it.

The world over, in towns large and small, in every place where human foot has left its print are found two classes of people: Those who tell all they know and those who think twice before they speak. With the first class it seems an utter impossibility for them to keep a thought to themselves and they always carry a delightful atmosphere of insecurity about with them, none ever knowing what they may say next. Force of habit is strong and either are liable to go to extremes, the reticent people becoming almost as mum as oysters, and the babblers going on and on, like the brook, with never a pause and never a thought of what their careless repeating of everything they hear may do. To repeat charming things we may hear of one is perfectly right and proper, while in keeping such things to ourselves we do not add our share of brightness and pleasantness to the world. Many have a fear that in repeating reports or remarks heard, they may be called to account for them, consequently, perhaps, having had experience in that line they keep quiet and say not a word. But nothing daunts the chatterer and anything that they hear is grist to their mill; good, bad or indifferent, they grind it out regardless of consequences. However they go into company and then over there always attends their coming, while some friend sits ready to lay a warning hand on their shoulder and say, "now do be careful."

To reach a happy medium is most desirable. Tell the pleasant things of this life, but don't blurt out anything and everything, risking the reputation of your own common sense, and injuring the feelings of others.

Why is it the average man finds it an impossibility to dress, or perform any simple task in a room, without making it look as if a cyclone had been through it? Anything and everything not used for immediate use, finds a resting place either on a chair back or the floor. Boots in one corner, hats in another, gloves and ties everywhere, and everything stirred up in a conglomerate mixture when some desired article can not be found. Any room is found. A man who has a wife to keep him in order learns, after a fashion, to follow the old maxim of "a place for everything and everything in its place," but leave him alone for a time, and the reign of disorder is in sway once more and chaos holds possession. The bump of order seems to have been left out of the masculine composition and it appears the most natural thing for a man to drop anything wherever he may happen to be, so soon as he has no farther use for it. This characteristic is first developed in a small boy's pocket. Over that he holds absolute control and in succession take from it fish worms to chewing gum. His other possessions, clothing and the like, are cared for by his mother until he starts out for himself. Then how he does enjoy keeping his belongings in a tangle. A gentleman told me one day that once a month his mother insisted upon having his room put to rights and then came two weeks of orderly misery, until most of his possessions were on chairs or tables, right where he could find them by stirring them up a bit with a stick, and he was once more happy. Doubtless his sentiments are echoed by the majority of mankind. Once in a great while we find an orderly man and then he is apt to go to the other extreme and is fussy in his niceness.

The following little story will explain itself. A lady remarked to her servant one morning, "Why Mary, I thought you had put Mr W's room in order."

"Indeed I did, mam," was the reply, "but the master came in to put on a clean collar and lost his collar button."

—"Golden at morning, silver at noon, and lead at night," is the old saying about eating oranges. But there is something that is rightly named Golden, and can be taken with benefit at any hour of the day. This is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, literally worth its weight in gold to any one suffering with scrofulous affections, impurities of the blood, or diseases of the liver and lungs. It is unfailing. By druggists.

Diamonds Native to the United States.

Diamonds have occasionally been found at a number of localities in the United States, but the crystals are of infrequent occurrence and never in sufficient quantities to warrant any extended mining for them. The total number found is not more than 200. The largest authenticated diamond crystal was found opposite Richmond, at Manchester, Chesterfield county, Va., by a laborer engaged in grading the streets. Its original weight was 23¾ carats, but it had a large flaw on one side and had been injured by the finder putting it into an iron furnace in order to prove its genuineness. After cutting it weighed 11¾ carats. It passed into the hands of Capt. Samuel Dewey and was by him named the "Onimoor," or sea of light. John Morrissey once loaned $6,000 on it, but, owing to its poor color and other imperfections, it probably is not worth more than 10 per cent. of that amount to-day. A number of diamonds weighing one carat each have been found in North Carolina at various times from 1846 up to the present time. They are usually found in the gold washings, associated with gold and other rare minerals. The debris is usually the result of the old gneissoid, and, perhaps, the decomposed peridotite rocks. A diamond weighing 5⅛ carats was found on the Alfred Bright farm in Dysartville, McDowell county, N. C., in the summer of 1886, by the 12-year-old Willie Christie, who was sitting at a spring and saw a "pretty trick" about two feet from where he was sitting. He picked it up, took it home and laid it on a shelf. Only after two weeks did he think of taking it to any one for identification. It was then sent to New York for valuation.—*Harper's Magazine.*

Sudden Changes of Weather cause Throat Diseases. There is no more effectual remedy for Coughs, Colds, etc., than BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. *Sold only in boxes.* Price 25 cts.

IS THIS A SIGN

Of the Approaching of the "Time of the End?"

As might have been expected, Canon Taylor's essay on "Islam in Africa" has excited considerable discussion in England; and it has been challenged to give his authority for statements that have aroused surprise and indignation. This the canon is quite ready to do, and he has backed up his previous affirmations with an array of evidence which fills two and a half columns of the *London Weekly Times*. The points which Canon Taylor insisters up most strongly are the very utterances which have proved most distasteful, namely, those showing the rapid progress of Mohammedanism among African tribes, and its healthful influence. Professor Crummel, in his book on "The Future of Africa," says:

"Mohammedanism is rapidly and peaceably spreading through all the tribes of Western Africa." Sir Richard Burton affirms that Mohammedans alone make proselytes in Africa. Dr. Blyden, a full-blooded Christian negro, recently the Liberian minister at the Court of St. James, in his recent work entitled "Christianity, Islam, and the Negro Race," says that in Western Africa "Mohammedanism is rapidly superseding Paganism." He further says: "Between Sierra Leone and Egypt, the Mohammedans are the only great intellectual, moral, and commercial power. Islam has taken posession of and shaped the social, political, and religious life of the intelligent tribes. No one can travel any distance in the interior without finding that Islam is the ruling influence." Equally strong is the testimony concerning the elevating effect of Islam on its converts. Mr. Joseph Thompson, the African explorer, in an article in the *Contemporary Review*, last December, said: "It is a painful fact to admit that there is no shirking the naked reality, that in West Africa our influence for evil counterbalances any little good we may have produced by our contact with the African. Speaking of the coast tribes, he affirms that the "for every African who is influenced for good by Christianity, a thousand are driven into deeper degradation by the gin trade." Dr. Blyden says that the European languages "have come to the greater portion of the natives associated with profligacy, plunder and cruelty, and devoid of any connection with spiritual things; while the Arabic is regarded by them as the language of prayer and devotion, of religion and piety, and all that is unworldly and spiritual." And Mr. Thompson's evidence is much to the same effect. In a recent lecture at Manchester, he said that "while on public platforms we are talking about the message of peace and good will to the heathen, we are at the same time, in the name of commerce and civilization, driving thousands into deeper depravity and deeper barbarism by a deluge of poisonous spirits, while absolutely the only effective protection to this terrible flood of gin is provided by a religion of which we seldom speak but to revile—Mohammedanism."—*Christian Register.*

LOST MONEY.

What Became of the Enormous Fortune of the First Napoleon?

One of the most remarkable historical incidents of this century was the disappearance of the First Napoleon's enormous fortune. In 1810 he was far and away the richest individual in the world. He came out of the Italian campaign, ending in 1800, with $4,000,000, according to his own account. This, he maintained, was his private property. Taking the statements he made to his friends and others at St. Helena, he must have had hidden away, when he left France the last time, the enormous sum of $40,000,000 or 200,000,000 francs. This would make him very much the wealthiest man in the world, for that sum was then equal in influence to $200,000,000 now. No sovereign of his time could begin to approach him in personal fortune. Marshal Soult, the last of the imperial marshals, (who died in November, 1851, just about a year before his great antagonist, the Duke of Wellington), told a venerable French general officer, who repeated it to the writer, that when the emperor went to Elba he had 60,000,000 francs covered up in Paris alone.

Of the $12,000,000 hard cash paid over at one time by the United States to Napoleon as first consul in 1803, it was common rumor, but not very general, you may be sure, however—that 7,000,000 francs of the sum was never accounted for in the voucher. This might easily have been. Napoleon was then first consul for life. He could do just what he chose, and no one dared call him to account.

It is not very difficult to hide money in large sums, too, so it cannot be found, be the search ever so careful. Ferdinand Ward has some millions thus covered up, and no human being has ever yet found a clew to the stolen treasure. It was said, and believed by many people, too, that Stephen Girard, of Philadelphia, had a large sum in bonds belonging to Napoleon I., which he would had handed over to him had he succeeded in getting away to the United States after Waterloo, as he tried to do. Louis XVIII, through his minister of finance, did all in his power to discover this hidden treasure, but those who knew would never tell. They probably took it themselves when the emperor died in 1821. But it is a very interesting and romantic story, the disappearance absolutely of the greatest fortune in the world's history up to that time, leaving not a trace behind.

The Stratagem.

When the electric telegraph was first introduced into Chili a stratagem was resorted to by the guard of the posts and wires against damage on the part of the Araucanian Indians and maintain the connection between the strongholds on the frontier. There were at the time between 40 and 50 captive Indians in the Chilian camp. Gen. Pinto called them together, and, pointing to the telegraph wire, said: "Do you see those wires?" "Yes, general." "Very good. I want you to remember not to go near nor touch them, and if you do your hands will be held and you will be unable to get away." The Indians smiled incredulously. Then the general made a concession and let them take hold of the wires at both ends of an electric battery in full operation. After which he exclaimed: "I command you to let go the wire!" "I can't; my hands are benumbed," said the Indian. The battery was then stopped and the man released. Not long afterward the general restored them to liberty, giving them strict injunctions to keep the secret and not to betray it to their countrymen on any account. This had the desired effect, for, as might be expected, the experiment was related to the strictest confidence to every man of the tribe, and the telegraph has ever since remained unmolested.—*Electrical Review.*

A Grocer's Shrewd Device.

A South street grocer had a curious experiment one evening. While busily engaged in the back of his store selling an Irish woman a pound of butter some sneak-thief made away with three tempting-looking canvassed hams that hung outside on a cross-piece between the awning posts.

What did the grocer do?

Well, he wrote on a piece of paper: "I know who stole the three hams from in front of my store. They are worthless to any one but myself. If returned in twenty four hours no arrest."

When his clerk came down to open the store at daybreak the three hams hung outside.

"They were sawdust," explained the grocer, "and that is why I was not worried over the loss. The thief at first thought they were Bower's best when he first grabbed them, I suppose. We are becoming wise in our day and generation, and we don't set out any wondrous "finds" on front door displays now. Those three barrels of flour are empties; those bags of Rio, Java, Moch and Padang are sand—pure Schuylkill sand—and those baskets of tempting vegetables and apples have a bottom just six inches from the top, and are weighted down to the pavement between the false bottom and the real bottom. This it goes, and we do not suffer a great loss if the entire outfit is stolen, ruined upon or otherwise damaged. It's different from what it used to be."—*Philadelphia News.*

$500 Reward.

If you suffer from dull, heavy headache, obstruction of the nasal passages, discharges falling from the head into the throat, sometimes profuse, watery, and acrid, at others, thick, tenacious, mucous, purulent, bloody and putrid; if the eyes are weak, watery, and inflamed, and there is ringing in the ears, deafness, hacking or coughing to clear the throat, expectoration of offensive matter, together with scabs from ulcers; the voice being changed and having a nasal twang; the breath offensive; smell and taste impaired; experience a sensation of dizziness, with mental depression, a hacking cough, and general debility, then you are suffering from chronic nasal catarrh. Only a few of the above named symptoms are likely to be present in any one case at one time, or in one stage of the disease. Thousands of cases annually, without manifesting half of the above symptoms, result in consumption, and end in the grave. No disease is so common, more deceptive and dangerous, less understood or more unsuccessfully treated by physicians. The manufacturers of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy offer, in good faith, $500 reward for a case of catarrh which they cannot cure. The Remedy is sold by druggists at only 50 cents.

WHAT THEY ARE.

"Books Which Have Influenced Me."

While the Bible of the race is being written from age to age, the Bible—as the Old and New Testament are rightly described—remains the most influential and the most valuable of all the revelations of the divine will. It is not one book, but many books, some of which have influenced me deeply others have not influenced me at all. The first time I felt the influence of the Bible was when I first went to a boarding school I was unspeakably miserable and forlorn. I was only twelve, and had never been away from home before. It was then I discovered the consulatory influence of many of the Psalms. Take them all around, the Psalms are probably the best reading in the world when you are hard hit and ready to perish. After the school, Proverbs influenced me most; and I remember, when I was first offered an editorship, reading all the Proverbs relating to kings as affording the best advice I was likely to get anywhere as to the right discharge of editorial duties. When I was busy with active direct work among the ignorant and poor, the story of Moses' troubles with the Jews in the wilderness was most helpful. Later, when, from 1876 to 1878, no one knew when he went to bed but that by morning Lord Beaconsfield would have plunged the empire into war, the Hebrew prophets formed my library. In 1885 it was the story of the evangelists. If I had to sing out any one chapter which I am conscious of having influenced me most, I should say the first of Joshua, with its oft-repeated exhortation to be strong and to be very courageous; and if I had to single out any particular verses, it would be those which were taught me when a boy, and which I long afterwards saw on the wall of Gen. Gordon's room at Southampton: "Trust in the Lord with all thy heart; lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

Rheumatism

Is undoubtedly caused by lactid acid in the blood. This acid attacks the fibrous tissues, and causes the pains and aches in the back, shoulders, knees, ankles, hips and wrists. Thousands of people have found in Hood's Sarsaparilla a positive cure for rheumatism. This medicine, by its purifying action, neutralizes the acidity of the blood, and also builds up and strengthens the whole body.

The Delicious Frost Fish.

Few people outside of the guides and inhabitants of the Adirondack wilderness in the state of New York are acquainted with the frost fish of that section, for the reason that they rarely ever show themselves during the summer when the tourists and summer visitors are there.

In appearance they resemble both the whitefish and smelt in certain particulars, and in the lakes inhabited they do not begin the warm weather, and, in fact, for the most part of the year except in the late fall, during their spawning season.

In weight they run from a quarter of a pound to a pound and a quarter. Their flesh is white and firm and of an excellent quality, and they are even much more sought after than the speckled trout by those who live in the woods. They can only be taken in the fall of the year, when they come into the swift water to spawn, and at that time they are easily captured in large quantities and salted down for winter use by the guides. They are put up in kits, and when so packed they need only to be allowed that privilege. And now if my next vote should be my last one, let me cast it for the old man's son. Yes give me Robert T. Lincoln first, last and all the time, and pulverize the Mugwumps. —J. E. Tate, Co R., 16th Mo. Cav. Vol. Ablient, Kans.

Pensions—Plain Talk.

Editor Camp Fire:—I must heartily endorse the "plain, true talk" in the Camp Fire department of the Blade of December 1, by Comrade R. G. Gillespy, Co. H, 8th Ind. Cav., Wichita City, Kansas. His pungent way of putting the pension matter suits me exactly. There is no disputing his position, because it is right and just. There is no such thing as "charity" in granting pensions to those who saved the life of the Nation at the peril of their own. We are not paupers, but American freemen, made such by our own valor upon many a bloody field of battle, and I maintain that every soldier of the Union who was honorably discharged from the United States service is not only deserving of a pension but has a right to demand and receive it. The value of our services in saving the Nation cannot be measured in dollars and cents, as so aptly illustrated by comrade Gillispy. We are all growing old—are getting weaker and feebler every day, and many are now beginning to suffer from painful disabilities, and the result of hardships and exposures incurred in the army. But few men that went into the service able-bodied and sound of health but what came out more or less impaired physically, and this disability, however slight at first, is increasing with age, and incapacitates the sufferer from following his usual avocation and earning a comfortable living. I believe all soldiers should be allowed a service pension, whether disabled or not, and all that are disabled receive the same amount as now allowed for disability, in addition to the service pension. Some will exclaim in holy horror: "Oh that will never do! It will take millions of dollars! It will impoverish the government!" etc., etc. Well, suppose it does take millions of dollars. Isn't a national treasury overflowing with a vast surplus which is daily increasing and over which statesmen are puzzling their brains how to dispose of? Who made it possible for the country to be so prosperous and happy and to have such an overflowing treasury? was it not those who put their precious lives, and all else that was near and dear to man in jeopardy and peril that this good and munificent government might live and grow and prosper, until now it is the greatest, the richest, and most prosperous country in the world?

President Cleveland, in his late message, devotes a large space to a reduction of the revenue, and disposing of the surplus, and zealously advocates the free trade policy, which he claims will "remunerate labor, which our workingmen need, and with benefit to them and all our people, by cheapening their means of subsistence, and increasing the measure of their comfort." Thus while the laboring classes are carefully looked after, not one word is said about the old soldiers or pensions. On the day of reducing the surplus, British and labor interests are of paramount importance with a Democratic president. But we may be unreasonable, and should not expect sympathy or comfort from the head of the party against whom we fought, and himself represented by a deserting substitute and bounty jumper. But we have the unadulterated word of a man that there is a half million left of us yet, and that we have votes as well as the foreign element labor class, and that the Democratic party will not get one of their votes in 1888. "We are a band of brothers," whose relationship has been cemented by the blood of our slain comrades, and are firmly united, and are a potent power in the country, and "by the eternal" we intend to make it felt in future elections as it never has been in the past. We shall know our friends and support them. We shall vote as we shot against the rebel Democratic party, headed by Grover, the pension vetoer and insulter of veteran soldiers.—C. H. Howe, adjutant 3d Mo. Cav. Vols., Lagrange, Mo.

The Camp Fire.

[Contributions from the old soldiers are earnestly solicited by the editor of the Camp Fire. No matter if you cannot write a lengthy history of your lives, for we much prefer short, lively sketches, personal and historical. All communications will be attended to, and no contributor will be overlooked. We do not want anything from the records, as we are supplied with a full set.]

The Picket and the Rain.

Editor Camp Fire:—I have been an interested reader of the Blade a number of years, and always took a great interest in the Camp Fire.

I have looked in vain for a chip from the 25th Ohio, and have concluded to throw in a rail. I have been a Republican ever since I fought for the principles of the Republican party.

I believe in saying as little about the war as possible, but when they tackle you, boys, give it to them as of old.

Do any of the boys remember of the episode that took place near Strasburg, Va., when on picket? I with two companions, were detailed for picket duty. The orders were one watch and two could rest. I could not sleep, for the rain was pouring down in torrents. I told the boys to sleep one on each side, and I remained in a sitting posture, so as to awaken them easily. One of them slept on his back, and the ground being sloping, the rain would run off his cap, over his face into his mouth, and when about full, he would make a gurgling sound, but not awaken, when I would turn him over and let it run out, after which the operation would be repeated. If any of the boys hear or read this, I would like to hear for them. I say Lincoln in 1888.—John Fisher, Jr., High Private, Rear Rank, Extreme Left of Co. C, 15th O. V. I., Hannibal, Monroe Co., O.

A Party Without a Policy.

Editor Camp Fire:—I have just read Comrade R. G. Gillispy's little speech in the Camp Fire and it has filled me with patriotism. A while ago I read an article in the same Camp Fire which filled me with something else—disgust. It was from the pen of an old Mex. widow who says that her husband drew a pension up to the day of his death and then it was stopped, and that she has always been a Democrat, but is one no more. The idea of a person drawing a pension and aiding the party with his ballot that is opposed to giving pensions is just like a man trying to quench a burning house with two pumps—one throwing water and the other oil. Gen. Grant said that "the mission of the Republican party was not fulfilled as long as there was a Solid South." So I have been shooting ballots at the Democratic party ever since Lincoln was elected the second time, and part of that time I was shooting lead at the same party, paper and lead and lead and paper, and sometimes both. When paper wads would not do, then we took lead, but it was the same target all the time. The last time we shot them out in mud four years with lead, and I think this time it will only take about four years with paper wads. I think anybody with a grain of sense, and who ever expected anything of the government, ought to have waltzed right over to the Republican party in 1865. Cruel fate cast me into Missouri shortly after the war, and I have seen the evil of Democratic rule. It is, and has been, their delusion to keep down what the Republicans built up. Look at the difference between Cleveland and Blaine. Cleveland has not the mind to grasp the great principles of government. He is no statesman. He has not two ideas above a common school education that fit him for president. But if he is known at all in history, it will be as "Playing lived in Blaine's time." I am not surprised to see those who want to build up England and pull down America, stand up for Cleveland. That is his policy. It is to degrade American labor and build up English labor. He reminds me of an old mossback Missourian who did not want to pay his honest debts, and when asked if he intended to pay him. Cleveland wants to stop the money coming into the U. S. treasury, so that there will be none to pay the old crippled and maimed soldiers who risked life and limb to save this nation from such a destruction as has never befell any nation on earth had the rebels gained the day. And now by the way but with the Republicans, votes with this same evil-minded Democratic party. My comrades, I love that dear, devoted American citizen, James G. Blaine. He dares to stand before this great nation, yea, England, and all the world, and proclaim a policy, and recommend what ought to be done. Cleveland was afraid to do this. And put into the Presidency like a young rebel soldier down in Atlanta said that Sherman took Atlanta. He said that Sherman did not take Atlanta fair, but that he "sneaked in." That is the way Cleveland got into the Presidency. He sneaked in. He would not have come within 100 miles of it had stood up like a man, like Blaine, and proclaimed a policy. Space will not permit me to bring up a tenth of the charges I have against old Cleveland. Hurrah for Blaine and Lincoln in 1888.—S. W. Mills, Co. G, 4th Ia. Cav., Parterville, Bourbon Co., Kas.

A Party Without a Policy.

Editor Camp Fire:—I have just read Comrade R. G. Gillispy's little speech in the Camp Fire and it has filled me with patriotism. A while ago I read an article in the same

Question Bureau.

1. The true name and postoffice address must be given in all cases. But, when specially requested, they will not be published.

2. No attention will be paid to mathematical problems, questions of grammatical construction, or inquiries regarding the reliability of individuals, firms or corporations.

3. Communications for this department MUST be written on a separate sheet, directed to the "Question Bureau," and contain not more than three questions. Do not ask a question and then proceed to argue it. If we can answer it and it is considered of general interest, it will be answered. It is useless to request an answer in the "next issue." The Question Bureau is always full, and we are usually two or three weeks behind.

4. This department is not intended to settle party disputes or mobile bets. Replies to questions are intended to be of general interest, and no one has the right to DEMAND a reply. Do not request an answer by mail.

5. No question will receive the slightest attention unless the first and third rules above are exactly complied with.

The Moon Hoax.

C. W. H., Andersonville, Ga.:

1. Please give an account of the "Moon Hoax." 2. Where is Aosta? 3. Who was Antony of Bourbon?

1. In 1835 Sir John Herschel made a voyage to the Cape of Good Hope, to take astronomical observations there. In September of that year there appeared in the New York *Sun* an account purporting to be a letter from Dr. Andrew Grant to the Edinburgh *Journal of Science*, serving a very elaborate and extraordinary account of discoveries made by Herschel, concerning the nature and inhabitants of the moon. The astronomer, by a remarkable combination of powerful telescopes, was enabled to bring the moon so near that the observer could recognize the character of tracks on the surface, perceive the color of flowers, and detect the characteristics of animals and men there also. Although this was prior to the birth of Darwinism, several "missing links" were then discovered. Truly, as the author remarked, "Man may now fold the zodiac around him with a lofter consciousness of mental supremacy." The articles were immediately issued in pamphlet form, both in this country and in England—in the latter edition reference to the *Journal of Science* and Dr. Grant were wisely omitted. A French translation also made its appearance in Pre V. Notwithstanding the unmistakable "Sun organ" and "humbug" ring of sentences such as the one above quoted, general opinion for some time attributed the article to Nicollett, a French astronomer; then living in New York (the French translation was undoubtedly by him), and his object was supposed to be to hoax Arago, whose hobby was lunar discoveries, and with whom Nicollet had been on bad terms previous to the latter's departure from France for political reasons. The real author, however, was Richard Adam Locke, a news reporter and penny-a-liner of the day, a young man of remarkable powers, but whose erratic temperament kept him from achieving any permanent success. In this country the "Moon Hoax" was a success. The whole edition of the *Sun* containing the article sold 600,000 copies. Of the pamphlet edition enormous numbers were sold. Except a few scientists who perceived the splendid absurdity of the detailed descriptions, and a few skeptics who never believed anything on principle, everybody was hoaxed. The newspapers were, as a rule, thoroughly taken in, though a few, like the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, would express no opinion, but left their readers to decide for themselves. The New York *Times* did not in the least question the authenticity of the article, but at once declared that it "displayed an extraordinary knowledge of astronomy," and that its accounts "all are probable and plausible and have an air of intense verisimilitude. There is something about the moon, R. A. Proctor affirms, which causes her to become a frequent victim of 'sleecivers.' Every little while some extraordinary theory or story comes out concerning the lunar orb. For instance, in January, 1874, the New York *World* published the statement based on some mythical observations, that the moon's frame was gradually cracking, threatening to fall into separate fragments. In February, 1874, the Chicago *Times* gave an account of a powerful reflector construct-d near Paris which showed buildings on the moon, also gangs of men chained together, the theory being that the side of the moon toward the earth was used because the lack of atmosphere as a penal settlement. The latter reads like a poor imitation of the original "moon hoax," but there is reason to think that in both the above instances a measure of malice, not to say criminality, was taken in was the newspaper receiving it. 2. Aosta is a district of the province of Turin, in North Italy, and surrounded by the highest elevations of the Alps; area is 1,223 square miles. 3. Antony of Bourbon, was King of Navarre, and commanded the royal forces of France and was killed at Kowen. Born 1518; died 1562.

Graphite.

S. B. Phillips, Rosemond, Ill.:

What are the uses of black lead, or graphite? And how prepared for use? Where found?

Black lead, graphite, or plumbago, is a mineral consisting chiefly of carbon, but containing more or less of alumina selica, lime, iron, etc. to the extent of from 1 to 47 per cent., apparently mixed rather than chemically combined. Black lead is the popular name and that which is generally known in the arts. Graphite is the name preferred by mineralogists. The name black lead ought, perhaps, to be regarded as an unfortunate one, as no lead enters the composition of the mineral. It occurs in masses crystallized, in short, imbedded hexogonal prisms, but generally massive, and more or less radiated, foliated, scaly, or compact. It is of a grayish black color, with a metallic lustre, and is lighter and softer than iron. It is greasy to the touch, and is a perfect conductor of electricity. Much black lead is found at Borrowdale, Cumberland. There are also great deposits in Missouri and in Siberia. It is employed in making pencils. It is extensively used, also, to give a gloss to iron railings, stoves, etc., and to diminish the friction of belts and other parts of machinery. It has been suggested as a lubricating agent in the cartridges of rifles, instead of lard or tallow.

Reform Schools,

G. B., C., Scott's Crossing Ohio:

Can you tell kw many reform schools there are in the United States; through what course are the inmates taken. Tell all you can about them?

The first reformatory school was opened in New York at the old Arsenal building in 1823. Boston followed the example in 1826 and Philadelphia in 1828. Since then many farm schools and industrial institutions have been opened by the state, county and city governments and many private enterprises have been undertaken, among the most efficient of which is the Children's Aid society of New York city. The last estimate placed the number at 40, but there are a good many times that number in the country now. The various societies visited vary from 60 to 75 per cent. That is nearly ¾ of the inmates are bettered by their attendance.

Miscellaneous.

A. B. T., Delta: Consult some telephone company.

J. C., Almeun, Kan.: Address your request to some book store.

H. A. L., Ida, Minn.: Addresses are not given by the Bureau.

A Subscriber: You have not complied with the rules at the head of this column.

J. H. J., Logan, Iowa: You have not complied with the rules at the head of this column.

R. H. C., Pleasant Shade, Tenn.: Addresses of firms selling books are not given in the Bureau.

C. F. Grieser, West Unity, O.: No addresses of firms selling goods will be printed in the Bureau.

Constant Reader, Harper, Ia.: Addresses of firms selling goods are not printed in these columns.

I. T. S., Port Washington, Ohio: Send your inquiries to the *Western Christian Advocate*, Cincinnati, Ohio.

W. P. M., Belva, W. Va.:

Address your question to some college and you will receive a full answer.

J. R. Hyatt, Ducktown, Tenn.:

For copies of the BLADE address the BLADE, Toledo, O., and state what numbers you want.

H. B., Chambersburg, Pa.:

Are physicians required by law to register or have diplomas in order to practice in Ohio?

Yes.

P. W. P., Mertilla, Kas.:

To what christian denomination does Rev. T. DeWitt talmage belong?

Presbyterian.

W. S., Rochester, Ind.

Should President Cleveland die who would become president?

Secretary Bayard.

C. J. S., Little Falls, N. Y.: Address your request to the acting commissioner of the general land office, Washington, D. C., and you will get the required information.

G. W. J., Conlride, Kansas, address your inquiry to the acting commissioner of the general land office, Washington, D. C., and you will get the desired information.

C. P., Meadow Brook, Ia.: You might find the engraving about which you enquire at some book store in any of the large cities. Addresses of firms can not be given in these columns.

M. R., Lyons, Ia.:

Please tell me through the BLADE the name of the governor of Pennsylvania at the time the Molly Magnires were hung.

John F. Hartranft.

O. W., Thetherton, Mich.:

Will you tell me through the Bureau what is the meaning of horse-power, and oblige.

See answer to A Subscriber, Holland, O., in BLADE of March 31.

J. H. B., Urbana, Mo.:

Please tell as much as space will permit about mad stones.

See answer to Joseph Bradly, East Leavenworth, Mo., in BLADE of July 7.

J. A. B., Decaturville, Tenn.:

Did President Lincoln at any time during the civil war issue a proclamation to the effect that if the seceded states would come back into the Union they might retain their islands?

No.

J. Zimmerman, West Liberty, Iowa:

Do Quakers need a marriage license to get married?

It depends upon what state they are in when they wish to marry. Some states require no license while others do.

J. M. S., Jamestown, Colo.:

Please tell me how to tan deer skins. Give full directions and oblige.

See answer to Geo. H. Boucher, Lucas, Iowa, in BLADE of May 19; also, A Subscriber, Huron, Kan., in BLADE of March 24.

Mrs. F. T. A., East Tawas, Mich.:

Could you inform an old subscriber where I could send to get a book containing dialogues, charades, tableaux, etc., suitable for school exhibitions?

Address Brown, Eager & Hull, Toledo, O.

A Reader, Richfield, Ind.:

Is there a tariff on salt, if so tell through your paper how much.

The tariff has received a full discussion in the editorial column during the past few months. For salt see WEEKLY BLADE of the past few weeks.

W. F. B., Eaton, Ind.:

Will you please explain, through your valuable paper, why natural gas is cold, when geology teaches that the interior of the earth is heated?

Gas comes from a depth of from 600 to 3,000 feet, which is far above the molten interior of the earth; so far that its temperature is not affected.

A Subscriber, Jerseyville, Ill.:

1. Please tell me of what political party Hon. Fred Douglas is. 2. Give a short sketch of the Mason and Dixon line.

1. Fred Douglas is a Republican. 2. Mason & Dixon's line was the boundary line during the war between the free and the slave states.

School Girl, Minn.:

Please tell a reader of the BLADE if it is lawful, in the state of Minnesota, for a principal of a public school to detain a scholar after school hours, for any small offence, such as whispering?

Address your question to some member of the school board or to the state school superintendent.

Subscriber, Rush Center (no state):

Will you be kind enough to publish the postage stamp language—that is, what the different positions in which a stamp may be placed on an envelope signify?

Any postal clerk or postal official will tell you to put the stamp in the upper right hand corner. The only signification to any other position means, "I am a fool."

E. E. C., Shiloh Hill, Ill.:

In our literary society the following question was moved and seconded: "Resolved that all Union soldiers serving one year in the late war should be pensioned." Another member moved to amend by substituting the question, "Resolved that Canada should be annexed to the United States." Is he right in his amendment?

Perfectly right, if it is obtained a second to his amendment.

J. G. Houts, Warrensburg, Mo.:

1. Will the BLADE please state how the electoral vote is counted now, under the law recently passed, in case of the election of President by the House? 2. How would the House stand now that the election of all the members of the 50th Congress is over?

1 Each state casts one vote. 2. The Republicans have a majority of one state.

M. C. T., Jersey Shore, Pa.:

If a man was born in April, 1800, in what century was he born, the eighteenth or the nineteenth?

He was born in the eighteenth century, for it takes 100 full years to make a century, and the eighteenth was not completed until the end of December 31, 1800. Now please don't begin arguing this chestnut again. We answer it on an average twice a year in the Bureau.

W. D. Jones, Massillon:

Will you please tell me how to paint a violin, and the ingredients used?

A fine crimson stain can be obtained by boiling 1 pound good Brazil dust in 3 quarts of water for an hour; strain it, and add ½ ounce cochineal; boil it again gently for half an hour, and it will be fit for use. If required of a more scarlet tint, boil ½ ounce saffron in 1 quart of water for an hour, and pass over the work previous to the red stain.

E. H. M. C.:

1. Please give origin and history of Thanksgiving Day. 2. How is the lower house of Congress organized? 3. Who is chairman until the Speaker of the House is elected.

1. Thanksgiving is an annual religious festival originating in New England, which, since 1862, has become a national institution, and is designated by a Presidential proclamation. The time chosen is usually the fourth Thursday in November. 2. and 3. The clerk of the last House presides until the speaker is elected.

N. E., Arlington, O.:

1. Has the United States training vessels where they prepare boys for the sea?

2. How should I address a letter so as to reach Admiral Porter?

1. The United States government has trainships where boys are taught all that is sufficient to make them able seamen. The course occupies a number of years and includes practical sailing, sail making and the science of navigation. 2. Address Admiral Porter, U. S. N., Washington, and he will get it.

I. F., Gosport, Ind.:

Please tell as much as your space will allow concerning Clara Barton.

Clara Barton taught school in New Jersey, served as clerk in the patent office at Washington, and on the outbreak of the civil war devoted herself to the sick and wounded soldiers on the battlefield. Removing to Europe she assisted the Grand Duchess of Baden in the formation of her hospitals, and followed the German army in the Franco-German war and received the golden cross of Baden and the iron cross of Germany.

Subscriber, Ackley, Kan.:

Please publish what you can about the olive tree.

The genus *olea* has evergreen leaves and minute white flowers in small racemes or clusters, which are auxiliary and terminal; the ovary is two-celled and two-ovuled, becoming in fruit a fleshy drupe, with a hard, two-celled stone, which is rough on one side and furrowed. The flesh of the drupe abounds in fixed oil. The common olive is one of the earliest trees mentioned in antiquity; it rarely exceeds 20 feet in height, and has oblong, leaves, which are pale green above and whitish beneath. From the dull color of the leaves, an olive grove presents a sombre aspect.

F. T. Moore, Abayton, Colorado.

Why should the death or illness of Jay Gould depress the value of stocks?

Jay Gould is a large speculator in stocks, and owning millions of dollars of securities, his death or illness would take him from business and consequently his vast money interest would be managed by somebody else. The fear of a change of tactics, a heavy buying, or dumping, of his holdings would make the market unsteady. Almost any unusual event influences the stock market. Frequently a heavy snow storm causes the stock of western roads to fall, because trains are delayed, expenses run up, and the railroad's earnings decrease, which makes the stock less desirable.

C. W. H., Aughwick Mills, Pa.:

Will you please describe the Rebel Flag adopted by the Southern Confederacy, and design?

The Confederacy had four flags, by the way, besides the various state flags carried by some of the regiments. The familiar "stars and bars" was adopted in March, '61, while the capital of the Confederacy was still at Montgomery, and first waved above the old state house of Alabama. There were three horizontal bars, two red and one white, with nine white stars in a circle on a blue union in the upper left-hand corner. This was so much like the old grid-iron that it led to confusion and mistakes in the field, and in September of the same year a battle flag was adopted—next flag with thirteen white stars displayed in blue stripes crossing the red flag diagonally, the whole having a narrow white border. In 1863 the "stars and bars" was supplanted by a flag with a white field, having the battle flag in the corner for a union, and on February 4, 1865, in order that this might not be mistaken for a flag of truce, the outer half of the field beyond the union was covered with a vertical red stripe. This was the last flag of the Confederacy.

No name, Evansville, Ind.:

1. Please give a sketch of the life of the wife of Louis Napoleon? 2. A brief sketch of Joseph Allston?

1. Eugenie Marie de Montjo was born in Granada, Spain, May 5, 1826. Her father was a Spanish grandee, who was connected with many illustrious families. Her mother, Maria Kirkpatrick Closeburn, was descended from a Roman Catholic family of Scotland which took refuge in Spain after the fall of the Stuarts. Eugenie was educated in France ank England, and traveled with her mother. She bore the title of Countess of Teba, and resided much in London. It is said that she met Napoleon here during his exile for the first time, but it was not until later, when he was President of France, and she appeared in the brilliant festivals of the Elysee in Paris, in 1851, that her beauty and grace so instantly attracted him. They were married January 29, 1853. The Prince Imperial was born in March, 1856, and the prospective right of regency was conferred on the Empress in 1858. She made the court of France very brilliant by her accomplishments and remarkable taste in dress. When the Emperor left Paris for the seat of war in 1870 she became regent of France. After the fall of Sedan she escaped to England, where her husband joined her and they resided until his death. 2. Joseph Allston was governor of South Carolina from 1812 to 1814. His wife was Theodosia, the only child of Aaron Burr. He was born 1778 and died 1816.

J. B. W., New Bethlehem, Pa.:

1. Will you please give brief sketch of James Arany? 2. Who was Mrs. Partington?

James Arany, next to Petofi the most distinguished of modern Hungarian poets, was born at Nagy-Szalonta, in 1818. When the Kisfaludy Society of Pesth offered a prize for the best humorous poem, Arany sent in anonymously his *Az elveszett Alkotmany*, (The Lost Constitution of the Past.) He was successful and soon became a popular favorite. In 1848 appeared his *Murany Ostroma*, (Conquest of Murrany. He died in 1882. Probably no person, whether real or fictitious, has attained so wide a celebrity as the humorous female who bears the euphonious name of Mrs. Partington. The creation of such a character suffices to entitle its author to lasting fame. The sayings of Mrs. Partington are as widely known as the English language itself. The author is never forgotten by any of his readers or any of the adnirers of his creations. But thousands whom Mrs. Partington is as familiar as [illegible] almanac have never heard of the author or perhaps suspected that there was any author in the case. What greater triumph can genius and invention achieve than to so thoroughly prevade the popular thought as to destroy the recollection of itself? Such has been the fate of Mr. Benjamin P. Shillaber, the author of Mrs. Partington. Born at Portsmouth, N. H., in 1814, he was a printer at Dover, in that state, in 1830. From 1835 to 1838 he served as a compositor at Demerara, Guinana. In 1840 he entered the office of the Boston *Post*, becoming editorially connected with that journal in 1847. At this time he wrote over the signature of Mrs. Partington, the quaintness of his style and matter giving him a wide reputation as a humorist both in this country and in England. From 1850 to 1852 he published the *Carpet Bag* and *Pathfinder*, but returned to the *Post* from 1853 to 1856. For the ten years following 1856 he was one of the editors of the Boston *Saturday Evening Gazette*. His publications includes Rhymes with Reason and Without, Life and Sayings of Mrs. Partington, or Knitting Work, and other volumes.

Mrs. J. M. S., Lincoln, Neb.

Can you give a sketch of the life of the wife of Robert Morrison, D. D.? Also Charles Babbage.

Rev. Mr. Robert Morrison was born January 5, 1782. He received his education at one of the Congregational colleges, and in 1805 was sent to Macao and Canton by the London Missionary society, to master the Chinese language, and to translate the Bible into it. He reached Canton in September, 1807, and during the year following was appointed translator to the East India company's factory at Canton. By the year 1814 he had completed the translation and printing of the whole of the New Testament. Four years afterward, by the help of Dr. Milne, the same work was done so far as to complete the Old Testament, and in 1822 he completed and printed his great Chinese dictionary, at an expense to the East India company of £15,000, or about $75,000. He was engaged in various labors until 1818, he established an Anglo-Chinese college at Malacca, for English and Chinese literature and the spread of Christianity. In 1824 he returned to England with a collection of 10,000 books in the Chinese tongue. Two years after he returned to China. In 1834 he accompanied Lord Napier to Canton as interpreter, and died there August 1. Dr. Morrison was also the author of several other important works. In 1839 his widow published a memoir of his life and labors. Charles Babbage was born in 1792. In 1828 he was elected Professor of Mathematics in Trinity College, Cambridge. Among his writings were Tables of Logarithms, 1834. He was the first to make the machine for counting by the aid of the object of earnest study. The difficulty of securing accuracy in getting up tables on a large scale led him to the idea of committing the execution of the whole work to a machine. Being commissioned by the government to superintend the construction of such a machine, he visited a great many manufactories and machine establishments in order to become acquainted with the resources of mechanical art. The survey afforded him the necessary information for his work on the Economy of Manufactures and Machinery, 1832. Baffage's calculating machine, from some cause not well explained, was never completed.

T. J. H., Jonesboro, Miss.:

1. Please give a sketch of the life of Harriet Martineau. 2. Give a sketch of Lady Jane Franklin.

1. Harriet Mortineau was born in Norwich Eng., June, 12, 1802. She was well educated, and, at a very early age began to exercise her talent for composition. In 1823 she began publishing poems and moral sketches chiefly for the young. By 1828 she had published ten of these small volumes, and she now prepared a series of tracts on questions relating to the working classes, in whose welfare she took much interest. In 1831 she published "Illustrations of Palestine," which was a series of sketches of this Holy Land during the period of Christ's ministry. In the same year the British and Foreign Unitarian Society offered three prizes for tracts on different subjects, Miss Martineau competed for, and won them all. She then began the publication of her series of "Stories on Political Economy," by which she gained much more fame and money than all her previous works. In 1834-6 Miss Martineau visited America, and on her return recorded her impressions in two volumes. During the next few years she wrote two novels and several tales for children, but her health, never very robust, now became so affected that she was obliged to give up literary occupation for two years. In 1840 she published a series of sketches called "Life in a Sickroom." From that time for nearly twenty years she pursued her literary work almost continuously, though much of the time she was in very feeble health. In 1846 she made a tour through the Orient concerning which she subsequently wrote a book. Probably the most important work of this indefatigable woman was a "History of England During the Thirty Years' Peace," a work which ranks as an authority concerning the period of English history to which it relates. Miss Martineau wrote in all over 50 volumes, besides a great number of pamphlets and an innumerable list of newspaper and magazine articles. She was several times offered a pension from the government, but, though she had never, because of her benevolent disposition, been able to lay aside from her earnings through literary labor, she always refused on conscientious grounds to accept it. Miss Martineau died June 27, 1876. 2. Lady Jane Franklin, the second wife of Sir John Franklin, to whose unwearied energy, devotion, and hopefulness we are indebted for the knowledge of the fate of her gallant husband, was married to Sir John Franklin in November, 1828. In 1845 Sir John, owing to his knowledge of news about the expedition of the Erebus and Terror, fears began to be entertained about its safety, Lady Franklin offered large rewards to any persons who should discover and relieve the missing voyagers. From that time until 1857, when she fitted out the Fox, under McClintock, whose discoveries set all doubts about the fate of her husband's expedition at rest, Lady Franklin never rested in her efforts to incite by voice, pen and purse, her own countrymen and Americans to search for the missing ships. Her interest in Arctic explorations never flagged up to her last illness and death in 1875.

Beautiful woman, from whence came thy bloom,
Thy beaming eye, thy features fair?
What kindly hand on thee was laid—
Endowing thee with beauty rare?

"Twas not ever thus," the dame replied,
"Once pale faced was I, these features bold,
The 'Favorite Prescription' of Dr. Pierce
Wrought the wonderous change which you behold."

A Description of "Old John Brown."

John Brown and four sons—two others had to remain behind for the time being on account of sickness—came at the call of the Lord of Hosts to fight out a life and death struggle against slavery, "the sum of all rascalities." He was almost six feet high, and rather slender than stout. His body, though not broad in the shoulders, told of unusual thrength. His muscles and sinews seemed to be woven with threads of iron His hair, which had grown gray with years, stood up in a dense mass above the heir forehead, which retreated somewhat from its upper part. Two deep furrows, telling of thought and cares, ran down between the bushy eyebrows to the stout curved nose. The thick full beard could not conceal the firm closing of the lips of the broad mouth. The large, clear eyes seemed to change color along with the intensity of the fire which glowed within them; sometimes they are called light blue, sometimes dark gray, sometimes black. When he hastened on with rapid and remarkably energetic gait, making room for no one that he met, his head would be slightly bent forward and his eyes cast down, as though he were lost in serious thought; but when occasion to pierce to the uttermost depth when he fixed them on a face; and if the enemy was near, they turned restlessly from side to side, as though no point of the horizon should escape them for a single moment. —*Old Letter.*

A Hen That Can Think.

Jack Smith's old roan hen has recently developed considerable mercantile ability. The other day Jack heard some noise in the chicken yard and went down to investigate. In one corner of the yard the roan hen Bettie was standing by a match box full of bugs. These she was peddling out to the other fowls, a bug for four grains of corn. The big Dorking rooster, Jim, was was standing by to see fair play. The way the count was made was very laughable. The purchasing fowl would place a grain of corn by each of Bettie's toes. Bettie would examine it critically, rake it to one side, and then pass out the bug. When Jack got there she only had two bugs left. The corn received would have filled a pint cup.—*Florida Paper.*

Rather Severe on the Young Man.

"My sister Clara," said Bobby to young Mr. Sissy, "was talking to ma about your having so early last night."

"I did she say she was sorry, Bobby?" pered young Sissy.

"No; she said she s'posed you went home so early because very likely your mamma won't let you carry a night-key."—*Epoch.*

Don't Laugh at Nervous People.

Their sufferings are very real, although you, with your vigorous physique and strong nerves, can scarcely believe it. Rather suggest the use of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters which, in removing every trace of dyspepsia, and regulating the liver and bowels, strikes at and extirpates the most prolific cause of chronic nervous trouble. That nerve-shattering disease, fever and ague, is among the formidable ailments, to the removal of which this genial remedy is specially adapted. Nervous prostration, resulting from prolonged mental or physical effort, is also a state of the system where the intervention of this tonic is very desirable, more particularly as its use is to quiet and relax the tension of overwrought nerves. The Bitters are invaluable in rheumatism, neuralgia and kidney troubles. Employ no substitute for it.

BEAUTY of Skin & Scalp RESTORED by the CUTICURA Remedies.

NOTHING IS KNOWN TO SCIENCE AT all comparable to the CUTICURA REMEDIES in their marvellous properties of cleansing, purifying and beautifying the skin and in curing torturing, disfiguring, itching, scaly and pimply diseases of the skin, scalp and blood, with loss of hair.

CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, and CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite Skin Beautifier, prepared from it, externally, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new Blood Purifier, internally, are a positive cure for every form of skin and blood disease, from pimples to scrofula. CUTICURA REMEDIES are absolutely pure, and the only infallible Skin Beautifiers and Blood Purifiers.

Sold everywhere. Price; CUTICURA, 50c.; SOAP, 25c.; RESOLVENT, $1. Prepared by the POTTER DRUG & CHEMICAL CO., Boston, Mass.

Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases."

HANDS Soft as dove's down, and as white, by using CUTICURA MEDICATED SOAP.

QUEER HIDING PLACES.

h e Skeletons of a Man and a Bird Found in Trees by Woodcutters.

Curious finds have not unfrequently been made in trees. Some woodcutters in the forest of Dromnling made a strange discovery. They began to fell a venerable oak, which they soon found to be quite hollow. Being half decayed, it speedily came to the ground with a crash, disclosing a skeleton in excellent preservation; even the boots, which came above the knee, were perfect. By its side were a powder-horn, a porcelain pipe-bowl and a silver watch. The teeth were perfect. It would seem to be the skeleton of a man between 30 and 40 years of age. It is conjectured that, while engaged in hunting, he climbed the tree for some purpose and slipped into the hollow trunk from which there was no release, and he probably died of starvation. Another mystery was found in the heart of an oak. From a tree of this kind a large block, about 18 inches in diameter, that had been knocking about in the various yards and wood-sheds, was split up lately, and in it was found an auger-hole about three-fourths of an inch in size, containing a bunch of human hair done up in a piece of printed paper. The hair was near the centre of the block and fastened in with a pine plug. It was apparently put in when the tree was quite small, as the tree had grown over the plug to the thickness of about four inches, with the grain perfectly smooth and straight.

A natural curiosity was shown in a timber merchant's workshop. This was the petrified skeleton of a bird imbedded in a piece of beech. The timber seemed quite sound all round the cavity, and there was no sign of any aperture into it; but the timber being sawed up, the nest with the bird sitting upon it was found. The nest appeared to be built with mud and the bird resembled a titmouse. Probably at the lopping of a branch a cavity was formed and the outside subsequently grown over; but how the bird was enclosed seems difficult to imagine.

In the center of a log of Honduras mahogany the saw revealed a large piece of honeycomb. The finder says the wax with the cell was hard and closely resembled in color the appearance of a mummy. The remains of the bees were incrusted in the wax. Another log of mahogany was being cut into veneers by a cabinet-maker, when his attention was attracted by the appearance of a remarkable and striking profile of Her Majesty in a knot in the wood. The likeness was so true that all who saw it acknowledged the resemblance. Had this curiosity only been discovered in the present year we might have had jubilee mahogany added to the never ending list of articles so distinguished.

So often have toads been found inclosed in solid bodies that it is not surprising to read in a Scottish paper that a servant, while breaking a large piece of coal for the fire, was startled to find in the center of the block a full-grown toad, which appeared to be in excellent health and spirits. A less common discovery was made in Birkenhead. A gentleman there was presented with a cow's tongue, which appeared to be perfect in every respect. After the tongue was boiled he discovered a piece of sand stone imbedded in it about three-quarters of an inch in length, half an inch in width and a quarter of an inch in thickness.—*English Paper.*

—Keep your blood pure and you will not have rheumatism. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood, and tones the whole system.

The Decline of the Monogram.

No fashion could have become more completely extinct than the once much abused custom of decorating every available piece of personal property with a monogram. At one time, not so very far distant, a conglomeration of hieroglyphics was to be observed wherever they could be placed, and although nobody ever took the trouble to decipher these twisted scrolls and letters it was somehow tacitly understood that their existance lent an additional importance to the owner of the article thus adorned. Nowadays, when fashions are gradually tending toward the simple and unobtrusive, we remark with pleasure that the monogram is becoming exceedingly rare. Handkerchiefs though they may be bordered with the richest lace are rarely considered letters. Note paper and envelopes are quite plain and the best style of seal used bears the impress of a small crest and nothing more. But supposing one has no coat of arms and consequent no crest? Is one therefore to be debarred from sealing one's letters with fancy wax? Not at all. Anything passable substitute would be a tiny initial letter. A seal of this kind can never be in bad taste. In marking table linen the monogram has entirely disappeared, the two or three initials that stand for the hostess's name being embroidered across the cloth in a simple way. Anything more elaborate is considered vulgar. As for monograms on underwear they are positively tabooed by women of real taste and refinement. Embroidery, when well done, is in itself always beautiful, but monograms that no one can possibly read are meaningless and their decline should be encouraged.—*Washington Post.*

White Swelling.

Mr. M. S. Hamlin, one of the best known insurance men in North Carolina, writes from Winston, as follows: "Ever since I was seven years of age I have had what the doctors call hip disease, and which I call white swelling. My hip was drawn out of place. There was a swelling at the knee joint, where there is a profuse running, which has been there for years. Of course this has greatly depleted my system, together with surgical operation on the leg bone. I tried every known blood purifier to build up my system, but none did me good until I took S. S. S. I use it every spring. It always builds me up, giving me appetite and digestion, and enables me to stand the long, trying, enervating, hot summer days. To me there is no such medicine for purifying the blood and building up. I was induced to take S. S. S. on hearing of it soon became strong of body and easy of mind. My color changed from a pale, worn look to a healthy, robust complexion."

Mr. G. N. Frizzel, of Farmersville, Texas, writes: "About August 1st, 1865, an eruption appeared on my arms and legs, which pained me much and secured to affect my physical condition generally. On the advice of a physician at this place, I finally commenced using Swift's Specific. I am glad to say that after using three large bottles the sores have all healed."

Treatise on Blood and Skin Diseases mailed free. THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO, Drawer 3, Atlanta, Ga.

Public Nuns' Parochial Schools.

A certain good Catholic head of a family is heartily down on parochial schools. He goes to church regularly and takes his children to church, but when it comes to the matter of their education the public schools of the commonwealth is good enough for him. The priest of his church visits him occasionally and reasons wish him on what he calls the error of his ways, but our good Catholic is imperturbable. He knows what he wants, and proposes to have his children educated in the schools of the citizen.

Not long ago, one of his small people, one quite too small to go to school, was left to entertain Father —— for a few minutes. He began in a jocular manner to quiz her a little.

"How much are two times two?"

"Four."

"Three times three?"

"Nine."

"Come, now; wouldn't you say ten?" said Father ——

But the little girl did not assume a look of puzzled innocence which the priest expected. She tipped her head on one side, looked up at him brightly, and chippered back:

"I gueth you go to school to the thisters' school."

The genial advocate of the "sisters' school" tells this on himself, and the smart little girl got a cent from her papa.—*Boston Advertiser.*

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They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER, &c. They regulate the Bowels and prevent Constipation and Piles. The smallest and easiest to take. Only one pill a dose. Purely vegetable. Price 25 cents.

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A Badly Arranged Programme.

At a recent sacred concert a lady who has made a name for herself as a performer on the pipe organ played a solo with such ability that the audience insisted upon an encore. To this she responded, playing again with equal skill. The lady's husband was the next performer and he sang, "It is enough: now let me die."—*Toronto Globe.*

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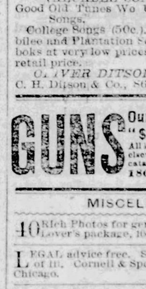

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THE BLADE FOR 1888.

Has it occurred to you, reader, that the Presidential campaign for 1888 will be even more hotly contested than that of 1884? And has it also occurred to you that you need to read a first-class newspaper, during this intensely exciting and interesting political battle, which will cover the summer and fall of 1888?

If these things have not occurred to you, we beg to call your attention to them—and also to the fact that the renewal season for subscriptions is at hand. In view of the coming Presidential campaign, all the present subscribers of the BLADE should renew, and every one who does not take it, should come in at this time and get it for the year.

We are glad to announce, as a special feature of the BLADE for the great campaign year, that the NASBY LETTERS will be a leading feature during its continuance. "Mr. Nasby" has been very quiet for some time, but he sees the postoffice at the X Roads trembling in the balance, and he is preparing to do his best to win the day!

Everybody will want the series of Nasby letters for the coming campaign. Subscribe for the BLADE, and get them in full!

Not only will these letters be a conspicuous feature of the BLADE, but the regular departments will be improved and bettered. The "Household," the "Young Folks," the "Camp Fire," the "Farm," and "Question Bureau" will each be made the best of its kind; and the BLADE shall still be more worthy of the title of "The only *perfect* newspaper in America."

We are preparing for a tremendous accession to our subscription list the coming year. During the campaign of 1884 our circulation ran up to 200,000, and we expect a half million during 1888.

Send us the addresses of all your friends whom you think would like a first-class newspaper, and we will send a specimen copy to each of them. We want EVERYBODY to send us a list of addresses.

And if you want to earn an honest penny yourself, send for confidential terms to club agents. We shall pay a larger cash commission for clubs this year than any other paper before the public. An energetic person can easily earn $5 a day by raising clubs for the BLADE this winter. Write for confidential club terms.

Don't fail to send lists of names for sample copies.

WHAT IS TO BE THE ATTITUDE OF THE THIRD PARTY ON THE TARIFF?

The Rev. Dr. ATTICUS HAYGOOD, of Georgia, is one of the most eminent divines of the South, and of the country. He is a moralist of high order, and we submit that the following utterance of his regarding the advisability of a third party, devoted entirely to the Prohibition issue, also stamps him as a reasoner of the highest order. We ask all friends of Prohibition to consider carefully the argument presented by Dr. HAYGOOD. We submit that it contains, in the fewest words, the most convincing argument against the formation of a third party; and we have yet to see a reply which answers his argument. Furthermore, we do not believe it can be done successfully. Read and consider:

As I look at it, and as most Southern prohibitionists look at it, the cause has no occasion to commit its fortunes to a third party, existent, or probable. It is a question for the whole people. Saturate the people with right thoughts and sentiments and no party will stand in the way of their will. This government is too big a thing to be run in the interests of even as big a thing as prohibition. The Prohibition party—as a party—must seldom there platform to make it wide enough for this government. When that is done prohibition is merged in the bigger thing—running the government, and it is lost. The aim of prohibitionists is not running the government, but prohibition of the liquor tariff. No government can be run on one issue. The end prohibitionists seek fails if they take in hand all the issues that belong to running the government of the whole country. As long as there are Republicans and Democrats—as long as there are parties, if differenced only as "outs" and "ins," there will be prohibitionists in each who will agree about nothing else.

The fundamental truth upon which the Georgia divine bases his argument is, that a party must have a policy for running the government—a complete policy, covering all mooted points, and being the expression of the party, through its representatives, as to the substantial endorsement of the course to be pursued in case it is placed in power. A party which appeals to the people, but upon one issue, leaves too much to the unknown. It will not meet with popular endorsement so long as it shirks the duty of declaring itself upon all questions of governmental policy in debate.

As Dr. HAYGOOD truly says, the basis is too narrow in the case of the political Prohibitionists. And the present condition of politics in the United States emphasizes his fact. Where does political Prohibition party stand upon the tariff? Whether we may individually think so or not, the vast majority of the people of the country recognize it as the most important issue before them. It is a vital issue, for upon the way in which it is decided depends the well-being of the nation. It is a pressing issue, for the President has gone to extreme lengths to impress upon Congress and the country that his solution of the problem must be adopted. The destruction of the Rum traffic may be considered by many to be really of greater importance; but we believe that any unprejudiced third-party man will admit the fact that the tariff will be settled first. From the way in which it is now presented, it eventually must be.

This being plain, whether it is admitted or not, the question seems—what are the Prohibitionists going to do about it? The leaders cannot leave it alone, evidently; for the voters of that party have as strong an interest in its solution as any other citizen. Its solution must affect them the same as all others. There can no longer be a middle ground. The issue is a protective tariff on the one hand, or a tariff for revenue only on the other. And the latter means, as the President clearly shows in his message, a tariff that has all protective features carefully removed from the very things which form the staple of our products and our manufactures, leaving the revenue to be collected largely off things which are of minor consequence to our producers and our manufacturers.

If they declare in favor of protection, or of a purely revenue tariff, what effect will their votes have? Let us take the first case, by way of illustration, and suppose that they declare for a revenue tariff. Then the Democratic candidates for Congress, as well as the third-party candidates, will be agreed upon this policy. But the third-party candidates can not hope to be elected. The number of Democrats who will vote for the third-party Congressional candidates will be more than balanced by the defection to the Republicans of those Prohibitionists who believe in protection. And the same thing is true, *mutatis mutandis*, supposing that the other alternative is accepted, and the third party shall declare in favor of a protective tariff. In either case, the third-party votes, so far, at least, as those cast for President and Congressman are concerned, will be voted in the air.

We believe that a very large number of those who have, in the last two or three years, voted with this party will abandon it in 1888, in order that their votes may be effective on the tariff issue. There is at last a question which divides the Democrats and Republicans, whose overmastering importance all persons can recognize. The third party, the various Labor parties all gained the main portion of their strength from voters who took a rather languid interest in politics, and who could see no real division between the Republicans and the Democrats, save that they were quarreling about the possession of the offices. That condition of things can be assumed no longer. The issue is before us. It is one which can not be dodged, which can not be straddled. We must meet it like men. And we have faith to believe that the great mass of these one-idea parties will recognize this fact and array themselves on the one side or the other—either under the banner of the Republicans or the colors of the Democrats.

But the cause of real Prohibition will suffer no drawback from this. The third party can not point to any one thing which it has accomplished toward Prohibition. The many great strides that have been taken in this direction have had, as a rule, but lukewarm aid from it. All that has really been done has been done on non-partisan lines; and the same good work will go steadily forward, irrespective of the third party. The people, and not that party, will finally

Pulverize the Rum Power.

MR. DANA AND THE PRE-IDENT.

Mr. Dana was probably out of town when the *Sun* made those original comments upon the message of that man whom the chief editor has been trying, now for three long years, to make a good Democrat of. The fundamental difficulty is that Mr. DANA, himself, as a Democrat is an exotic, and nothing but an oath registered in wrath, and hot-headed bigotry, keeps him from an open and active fight against the whole party; for he is by nature and teaching, and example, a protectionist and a Republican. His loyalty is as unlike that of Mr. CLEVELAND or VOORHEES'S, or any of those neutral chemicals in war times, as gun-powder is to sand. He is public spirited, enterprising and aggressive, as well as a philosopher on the most platonic basis, which is totally the reverse of the theory and practice of the Democratic party since the time of JOHN C. CALHOUN. His relations with the Democracy are purely artificial and he tolerates the alliance just as well-bred persons do certain domestic ties, which they have religiously sworn to keep sacred in law. He is, however, just as good a Democrat as CURTIS is a mugwump, the former being a resultant from a conscientious and fixed hostility, whilst the latter arises from a hostility due to mental dyspepsia and a narrow, micosmical, make-up.

Occasionally, the ferment evolves some of the native wine, and such is the case in the recent curtain lecture which the *Sun* reads to the President, where he informs him in plain type and fair English, that he has made an ass of himself. He not only proves that His Excellency has plucked the goose, the producer of the golden egg, by illustrating the true religion of Democracy, which is now, or for a generation, a piety inspired by graveyards, but volunteers an easy clearance of the muddle. It is quite easy on paper, and merely involves the passage of just the right sort of tariff legislation, the present session and before the next election.

In short, it is to abandon totally the whole argument of the message, and take up the teachings of the party DANA stood with during the war. He advises the least interference with the tariff paper, and the greatest possible reduction of the internal revenue tax. It will be pleasant reading for Mr. SAM RANDALL, and not altogether original to us all. Mr. RANDALL, however, or Mr. SHERMAN, or Mr. HAWLEY, or the gentlemen who represent Louisiana will not differ with Mr. DANA and yet no one is clearer than he that Congress, with its present components, cannot make such a bill as the President can approve.

THE CATASTROPHE IN CHINA.

Reports from inerior China announce a calamity which involves a loss of life the most disastrous of modern times, and seems to illustrates the mythological representation of the god, the earth, which devours all human kind. The Yellow, or Hoang Hai, river, drains the richest valleys in Eastern China, and after traversing the distance of 2,000 miles, from its source in the northern mountains, empties into the gulf of Pi-Chili. The levees gave way and submerged 7,000 square miles last September, ruining crops and engulphing the inhabitants. When it is remembered that this empire has an average of one hundred people to the square mile and that the portion in question is thickly settled and part of one of the richest of the middle provinces, with an almost continuous line of large cities on either bank of the stream, the estimate cannot fall below an average population of nearer three hundred to the mile than less. An area equal to one-sixth of the state of Ohio is still under water and two millions of people either drowned, or what is worse, in a stage of starvation.

ANOTHER NEW PORTRAIT—ROBERT LINCOLN.

So great is the interest now manifested in ROBERT T. LINCOLN, in connection with the next Republican National convention, that we yielded to the request of thousands of subscribers who ask us to add him to the Blade's Portrait Gallery of Eminent Men. We have therefore had engraved at great expense an excellent portrait of ROBERT LINCOLN, which is uniform in size with other portraits of our publication, but *this one* is printed in tints, at a greater cost than the others, and is pronounced by judges to be the finest one in our Gallery. As a likeness it is absolutely correct, and as a piece of art work it is handsomely executed. We mail them singly, post paid, for 25 cents.

EMIR BEY has again been heard from by way of a letter which bears date of February, 1887. The mail facilities in his portion of Africa are not speedy nor perhaps very sure, but he seems to be a jolly sort of philosopher, and always finds some friend about him to be grateful toward. The work of STANLEY must be accomplished by this time if he succeeds in meeting his friend, but the heat of Africa and the cold of the poles, seem in their way, each to be hostile to modern methods of transit.

It will be interesting to watch the dodges which the Democratic party will resort to during the session of Congress in order not to lose its tariff supporters before the coming presidential election.

CONFEDERATE PENSIONS.

South Carolina was the first state to secede from the Union, over a quarter of a century ago, and now has passed a pension bill covering all cases of disability, both of those who served in the Confederate army and in the navy. That is the correct thing to do, and it will not be long before other states will follow this example. No one should be, in morals, more interested to do justice to the soldier than the landed interests and politicians of the South. Their soldiers volunteered freely and fought for a cause they had no direct interest in, and perhaps more than we of the North did, purely for a sentiment. They were opposed to secession, and the great majority *must* have been the worse off had the result been otherwise than events proved. The people of the South generally were not consulted, and, with the exception of Texas, no one of the states, dared submit the question of their conventions to a test of the voters. Subsequent history shows that the issue was opposed by the best men of Georgia and Louisana, of Texas and all the border states, and the measure was crowded through by politicians, who had the least to lose and all to gain. It afterwards became more popular, but originally, it was hastily brought about, and as rashly, in some respects, as the war projected upon the people of France by the Third NAPOLEON. It is, therefore, very creditable that the public sentiment of the South is doing justice to its better wisdom and showing a fair liberality.

There is one item which seems to be ignored by Mr. CLEVELAND, and such as he, and which is only a mild construction of equity in being considered, at this late day, namely that the pay of an enlisted man was so small, that, it ought to be settled, now that our credit is better than it once was. The bulk of those who volunteered, both North and South would have been found in the ranks, if the pay offered had been five instead of thirteen dollars per month. Now during most of the war, the average wages of such as constituted the army were not less than a hundred dollars per month. Mechanics, like good masons, were getting five dollars per day, and bosses seven dollars. If, therefore, we make up the account, we find the actual loss in money to the soldier who served four years to have been $1,050 per year, or a total of over $4,000. Add to that the interest for twenty-two years, to equalize the time, and you have the amount, not a dollar less than $12,000, when compounded at 6 per cent. It may be diplomacy to ignore such a claim, but it is not a method to cultivate the highest type of devotion. There is no doubt of the justice of the claim if the soldier should desire to argue it, but that is not the issue so much as the other one, namely, can we afford to allow the question raised?

Even should the principal never be paid, the interest account would be at five per cent. six hundred dollars per year, or fifty dollars per month. Much has been said and written about the liberality of our government toward those who made the bonds and the greenbacks worth a dollar, and who make it a possibility for such a politician as CLEVELAND, even to be President, for had we lost the Confederate States the Democratic party would have been as scarce as the old Tory aristocracy is now in Philadelphia. It is not true, however, that we are the pioneers of this continent to that method of exhibiting national gratitude for public service, for the records are clear that the custom prevailed over three centuries back.

About three hundred and seventy years ago there lived MONTEZUMA II., President of Mexico, of whom it is recorded, and the writings are still on file, that he was the first to establish an asylum for citizens who, having served the country either in public office, or the army, might be in need of help on account of their limited means, their wounds, or other infirmities. He gave to them the city of Calhuacan wherein they were lodged, fed, clothed and cared for at the expense of the state. The text seems to show that a "service pension" was not an object of such terror to the civilization of the Pacific Coast, as it appears to our Man of Destiny.

If the Confederacy can teach the President anything, on the line of political morals, South Carolina ought to be able to interest him, for they are full of free trade, and all for CLEVELAND. It may be that his excellency may appreciate what HENRY S. IVES said of a certain railroad, before another year passes, namely: that it is a dangerous thing to have too great credit in the market, and presages a decline.

SINCE President CLEVELAND'S free trade message was sent to Congress, railroad companies, impelled by a belief that a tariff reduction bill, will be passed by Congress, and thus make the English product cheaper than the American, have withdrawn their orders for steel rails to a large extent. The beginning of consequences is the shutting down of the Vulcan Steel works in St. Louis, Mo., employing 1,000 hands. No doubt others will follow if the free trade fight is kept up by the Democrats, and an army of workingmen will be thrown out of employment. They cannot fail to see that they are striking a deadly blow at our home industries, only as they stubbornly close their eyes to the fact.

GOOD BYE HIGGINS. Your king has not been as good to you as you have to your king. It may be some consolation to you that possibly BACON did write Henry the Eighth, and indeed you might commit to memory what Mr. WOOLSEY spoke to Mr. CROMWELL, and if it don't make you feel well, it will certainly make you feel better. It is a rather humiliating historic record for the HIGGINSES of Maryland, that a HIGGINS should be not only displaced from the treasury, but that a HIGGINS of Maryland should be displaced by a SMITH from Jersey.

BAVARIA is in a bad way. It is reported that her Prince Regent has been bitten by a mad dog, and that he is, therefore, in imminent danger of hydrophobia. The king is as mad as the maddest, imagining himself a bird flapping his wings and collecting sticks and straw to build a nest. With such a series of misfortunes with her sovereigns, it would seem as if the best thing Bavaria could do would be to become a republic. When the head of the government became insane then, it would be an easy matter to elect a successor.

IT is estimated that there will be nearly 350,000 new voters next year in New York, New Jersey and Indiana; and there is good reason to believe that a considerable majority of them are disposed to support the Republican ticket. The election will really be decided by that class of voters. Give them an unobjectionable Republican candidate, and they will insure his success beyond any doubt.

THE burial of the five dead anarchists on Sunday was attended by so small a number of people that but one conclusion can be drawn, and that is, that it was also the burial of anarchy, so far as outward demonstrations show. One thing is certainly made evident, and that is, that the conviction has come, even to those who most admired the dead men, that they did not represent the true interests of labor.

LONDON papers are united in a regular hallelujah chorus over President CLEVELAND'S message.

ONE thing which goes to show that the German nation expects war is the harmony of the different parties in the Reichstag upon the military bill.

FACT AND FICTION.

One of the ubiquitous staff of the *World* recently took in Mr. MILLS, who is, just now, pumped full of tariff and loafs around the Rialto, as it were, waiting to be tapped. He is one of the few who "told you so." What he does not know, he can guess, and what he cannot guess, is not worth knowing. For instance, "Do you think that any measure affecting the tariff, that may be passed by this Congress, will make itself felt in the country at large to have any effect on the campaign of 1888." He answers promptly and officially: "If the tariff is lowered considerably, and should be passed by the first of April to take effect June 30, the price of our exports will go up before that time, and before November, the improved condition of agriculture, manufactures and commerce will be very perceptible."

Just how prices will go up on exports in response to a matter which relates only to imports, is not all clear sailing to the average cerebral material and can only be plain to the vision of an expert. The brain of Mr. MILLS, however, revels in fiction, and its flow can, with difficulty be stayed, but how does he answer the following monetary report from London forwarded to the New York *Herald* on the same day he predicted his boom in the export trade, for Mr. MILLS must remember that the largest export item, we have, consists in railway securities. It is dated London, Dec. 12:

"Steady increase in dealings on change, especially in Egypt railway securities under the prospects of improving trade and increase of traffic between American railway shares are dull and have been unsettled since the publication of President CLEVELAND'S message. Dealings are limited and prices downward in Wabash, D. & R. G., Lake Shore, Erie, Peunsylvania and Reading."

No one is keener than an Englishman to scent the history of a dollar, and anyone who understands that all the politics England has studied for years have processed around "trade," cannot have failed to read the signs of the times. Nothing has encouraged English traffic, since the days of the Confederate Congress at Montgomery, as the last official document of President CLEVELAND. The accident of President DAVIS and the Confederacy was the greatest boon that English trade has ever experienced, and now, after a term of twenty years, comes the glad news from CLEVELAND.

These reports from London show facts and are straws which one can count upon. England is really in a desperate condition, as there is now and has been for half a dozen years, a growing minority in favor of protection. No people but the conservative and dull English would tolerate the depression in most of their manfacturing towns, and in all the agricultural districts, due to their unrestricted competition. The explanation is clearer when one remembers that the greatest single element in the lobby of Parliament is the shipping ring, and the other fact that all the lands on the island would fit into a fair sized county in Kansas or California.

The singular feature is, that one of a fair amount of intelligence, should seriously venture such a paper as Mr. CLEVELAND has offered, who has any conception of the real condition of the state of home affairs in England. The lesson has been recognized by Germany and France, and their rates are fixed in the interests of their own economy and not that of some other power. If Mr. CLEVELAND or Mr. MILLS will look up the figures and compare our internal or domestic economy with the import trade of Mexico, South America, Australia and India combined, he will, perhaps, better comprehend why all the English press praise his wisdom.

EUROPEAN WAR CLOUD.

The war cloud which has again risen over Europe, is by no means certain to burst into a tempest. There are none of the nations which would be involved that want war, and, in spite of present appearances, and threatening operations, they will be likely to do what is possible for its avoidance. Russia declares that she will not be the aggressor, although she insists upon her right to take whatever steps she choses to put herself in a state of defence without being called to an account.

Meanwhile, on the other hand, both Germany and Austria are pushing their preparations to the utmost for offensive operations along their fronts, and everything is now ready for an invasion of Poland. Turkey is also becoming alarmed and is extending the fortifications of the Bosphorus.

Notwithstanding all this, as said before, war is not inevitable. Russia has made just as great preparations before, and then, at the last moment, changed her mind, or at least appeared to do so. The interests to Germany and Austria are too great to allow of any action in that direction that is not absolutely demanded. Further developments will be waited for with anxiety.

SHALL IT BE ARBITRATION?

The late meeting in Philadelphia to take action upon the arbitration discussion, called out some of the best old and new Quaker stock. The sentiments aired by the orators were not unlike those in that town in 1774.

The fact is, England has not a very enticing record to draw from in that respect, and her best fields are not remunerative for reflection to her victims. The condition of Turkey, of Egypt and India are not such as to encourage us to anticipate too much from the parental solicitude of our ancestral counsel, for she rarely spoils the child by sparing the rod.

There is, however, no objection to entering into a compact to discuss anything, and the fact that England has heretofore been fortunate in her bargains need not be an objection to reviewing, with her, new issues. Possibly the safest method to insure politeness on both sides will be to make some such general concession, and let each question be met, as its arises. Almost anything is better than war sometimes, but gun powder will be required a long time yet to clear the atmosphere.

TALMAGE—A BEAUTIFUL PORTRAIT OF A FAMOUS PREACHER.

At the request of thousands of our readers, we have had engraved a magnificent portrait of the great and world-famous pulpit orator, Rev. T. DEWITT TALMAGE, uniform in style with our other Military and Religious Heroes. The portrait is absolutely life-like, is executed in the very highest style of the art, and will be an ornament to any house. The thousands upon thousands of admirers of the great Brooklyn preacher, the greatest and most effective pulpit speaker now living, will be glad to secure this speaking likeness of the man. It has a more than passing value, for it is taken while he is yet in his prime, in the vigor and strength of his manhood, and while he is doing his most effective work. Every reader of his matchless sermons should have one. We mail them singly, post-paid, for 25 cents. For the combination with our other portraits, see announcement on fifth page, under the head of Publisher's Department.

THE probabilities are that M. CARNOT'S Ministry will soon die a natural death, since its chief strength is its weakness. The recovery of M. FERRY is near at hand, and his attempted assassination having had the effect of making him more popular than ever, he will, doubtless, soon be at the head of affairs in France.

THE opposition to the confirmation of LAMAR continues very strong, especially among the leading lawyers of the country, who oppose it on strictly professional grounds.

POSTAL TELEGRAPHY.

The consolidation of the leading telegraph lines under the control of one man, and that man JAY GOULD, has served to start anew the agitation of a government postal telegraph. As pertinent to this question, which will undoubtedly come up in Congress at this winter's session, we synopsize the report of the Postmaster General of Great Britain, to show how the governmental ownership of the telegraph works in that country.

The first complete financial year during which the reduced rates for inland telegrams were in operation expired on March 31, and it is interesting to note the effect upon the number of messages and upon the revenue. Separating the ordinary inland messages sent in that period from railway, press, official and foreign telegrams, which are not affected by the reduced rates, and of which there were over 10,000,000, it appears that the number of messages dispatched was 40,138,175 in 1886-7, compared with a total of 30,087,869 in 1885-6, and that the revenue produced was £1,354,879 as compared with £1,277,606 in the previous year, showing a growth of over 10,000,000, or 33 per cent. in the number of messages, and over £77,000, or 5 per cent. in the revenue.

This comparison, however, is not strictly fair, as the year 1885-6 contained six months at the one shilling rate. A more accurate comparison may be afforded by taking the last six months of 1885-6 and the corresponding six months of 1886-7. This shows an increase of 2,353,745 in the number of messages, or 14 per cent., and of £75,570 in amount, or 13 per cent. The London local messages alone show an increase of 50 per cent., the total number being about 3,600,000.

Now here comes a fact that needs to by carefully considered before we, in this country, commit ourselves to the place of government telegraphs. Notwithstanding the rapid and satisfactory growth of the telegraph business, the expenses of the service far exceed the receipts, and the deficit, after including the interest payable for the capital borrowed, amounts to £469,840. The deficit, for example, in 1881 was £2,112,525; for 1883, £4,346,114, and for 1886, £7,458,840. Now, if there is such a deficit in Great Britain (that island and Ireland together having an area of 121,371 square miles, they being about three times the size of Ohio), what would be the result in the United States, with an area thirty times as great? The cost of equipment and maintenance of lines would be increased thirty fold

During the last fiscal year new telegraph offices have been opened at 232 postoffices throughout the United Kingdom; and, including 1,542 railway station offices, there are now 6,514 public telegraph offices. The telegraphs were purchased by the government by means of a loan of a capital sum of £10,880,571, of which the annual interest charge is £326,471.

The parcels post system has been greatly extended and is much used for the transmission of fruit and flowers. Upward of 14,000 parcels, containing primroses, reached London on April 18 and 19 last. The postoffice savings bank commenced its operation September 16, 1861, a quarter of a dentury ago. On December 31, 1862, the end of the first complete year, the total amount, inclusive of interest, standing to the credit of depositors was £1,698,221. On December 31 last it was £50,874,338, a result which shows the value attached by the public to this institution.

THE AMERICAN PSYCHICAL ASSOCIATION.

Boston, Philadelphia and Washington thinkers are at the front of the "American Society for Psychical Research," of which RICHARD HODGSON is secretary. This bright array of talent has been co-operating to arouse a fair discussion of mental phenomena for about three years, and are outgrowing the British association of 1882. Just now the hard work in that line of research appears to be conducted under the guidance of the German universities, and needs to be Americanized.

It is a beautiful revelation to come from the hub, which used to be as overanxious for orthodoxy a few centuries back, as now she is honest in asking and answering any hard hitting query. This is, doubtless, due largely to the expansive influence of Cambridge, and the fact that Harvard college is the real Boston protoplasm. It is not, howeves, a local matter, but one which resurrects itself, at all times, in all nations, and seems determined to until more freely and fairly treated by those whose opinions will convey authority and insure a following to give it respectability.

It has become unsafe to say what is or is not, and what may or may not be uppermost, in the ferment of the future laboratory. Alchemy has become a practical science, after tossing about on the sea of speculation for a world of centuries. Astrology was almost, at one time, the head of the bureau of science and later the road to the stake, and at length, the inventor of our most fascinating study. The anatomy of the brain is all being rewritten, and doubtless, so will be the product of it, both in the hours of sleep, and in its normal activity.

THE territorial legislature of Utah have petitioned against the reduction of tariff on lead, and indicate in their argument, that $50,000,000 capital is at stake in case their plants are compelled to shut down. Commerce is so complicated that one interest may involve not alone its own individuality, but that of many others. It must be remembered, that the great bulk of lead taken from the mountain districts is found in combination with the silver deposit, and hundreds of silver mines must be abandoned if the price of lead is reduced, or the wages of miners must be depressed. Indeed, within the past eighteen months, most of the smelters of Leadville were closed down because lead was too low to bear shipment, and the mining output of that section and the San Juan region, became greatly reduced in consequence. That involved the railroads who deliver the coal and lime rock and coke used by the smelters, and the volume of trade was reduced to a ruinous degree. This resulted in impaired credits, so all merchandizing suffered, and perhaps most of all the agricultural products, because the home market was withdrawn, and in consequence value of lands was lessened as in England for ten years past.

MR. DANA is a counter-irritant in the spinal column of the Democratic party. Recently he called attention to the campaign of WILLIAM WALTER PHELPS in New Jersey, who captured the greater portion of the legislature of that state. He shows that protection is the creed of Jersey, and that the majority in its favor at the last election was between two and three thousand.

THE Austrian military council held at Vienna Sunday, did not seem to amount to much, as about all that was done was to resolve that the unexpended portion of last Spring's credit should be applied to military expenses in Galicia, and also that Austria will not strike the Czar unless the Czar first strikes Austria, or what means the same thing.

IT is announced that Senator GORMAN has become frigidly cold in his feelings towards wards the President, and declares it openly. The reason is, Mr. CLEVELAND'S interference in some matters in Maryland which Messrs. GORMAN and HIGGINS were attempting to manipulate to suit themselves. GORMAN'S defection is mourned by the President's friends, and rejoiced over by his enemies.

WHAT IS ANARCHISM?

Anarchism is the extreme of the socialistic and communistic propaganda. It declares that all property is robbery, that all government is tyranny. It assumes that all men are good enough to do their duty to their fellow-man without government, and that, with no motive to accumulate any property, man would return to the golden age, and peace and happiness reign.

This is the "social revolution" of which the anarchists prate. Their method of bringing this impossible state of things to pass is not by peaceable methods, but by scoundrelly assassinations and villainous robbery. Dynamite is to be used to kill, without mercy and without distinction, all representatives of the people's authority, from the police to the President. All authority being thus annihilated, stores, warehouses and residences are to be raided and robbed. Any man who attempts to set up as a leader to restore the reign of law is to be murdered remorselessly, and this is to be repeated until no one will dare attempt to reorganize society or to re-establish government.

All this sounds like the bloody dream of a murderer driven insane; but it is exactly what the anarchists preach. These are the doctrines that SPIES, PARSONS, ENGEL and FISCHER held, and for which the brutal and vicious gang of anarchists in the United States are endeavoring to hold them up as martyrs.

Socialism and communism are less degrees of the same craze. Their disciples believe that all property should be held in common, that one man should have no more than another, that brains and talent and virtue and industry and economy and sobriety shall be chained down to the same plane as mediocrity and immorality and idleness and extravagance and drunkenness, without the hope or opportunity of rising. The socialists and communists do not favor the abolition of all government, but they, practically, believe in a government by the worst elements of society rather than by the best; and they do not approve of dynamite methods of accomplishing their dreams.

The anarchists claim to look upon all men who have any property—even upon the sober, industrious workman who has, by economy, secured himself a home—as tyrants, deserving of death, that the fruits of their labor and self-denial may be divided among these lazy, murderous scoundrels, whose idea of happiness is a lazy lolling over the spigot end of a beer-barrel. They look upon all government as tyranny. In considering this matter, the conclusion is almost forced upon the mind that as soon as man rejects the truths of religion, he casts off the links that bind him to progress, to civilization, to morality, and becomes not only an useless but a mischievous factor in human life. If there were not one iota of truth in religion, it is necessary for the vast mass of humanity, to prevent their relapse into barbarism.

For, in sober truth, that is what anarchism, if practically applied, would amount to. Civilization is only possible through the reign of law. The individual gives up certain rights to the state, in order to receive its protection. To destroy government and property would be to force a return to barbarism—to the government of the strong arm—when he who was able took what he listed, and he who was weak suffered himself to be despoiled in silence or died in ineffectual defense of his home, his family and his property.

It is an astonishing, and withal a somewhat alarming fact, that any great number of people can be made converts to so bloody and so foolish a doctrine as that preached by the anarchists. It is a solemn warning, and not the first one that has been received, that a free government cannot exist unless there is an educated and enlightened voting population. The republic has lasted a century, but that does not mean that it is perpetual. Our attention has always been directed to possible dangers by executive usurpation or governmental corruption, rather than to those arising from ignorance and bigotry. We have remembered the lessons learned from the overthrow of all former republics, rather than watched for possible dangers in other directions. The propaganda of anarchism, socialism and communism in our midst is a sign of evil. These errors need combating by education, by the spread of intelligence, rather than by the strong hand. We need more education in all that makes a people strong and great. If we do not heed the warnings, the fate of the republic will have been written—suicide.

POSTAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION.

The recent discovery that our late postmaster general, or some of his subordinates, really discussed the enforcement of his rendering of a postal law in reference to printing on wrappers, circulars pamphlets and other fourth-class matter and other causes has contributed to the above-named organization. The officers will indicate the future possibilities when it is known that the president is WILLIAM P. NIXON, of Chicago; secretary, HERBERT MYRICK, of Springfield, Mass., and treasurer, JAMES VICK, of Rochester, N. Y. All are, of course, not only public spirited men and hard workers, but good organizers. Perhaps the fullest information to be given in regard to the object is a reprint of their prospectus which is to endeavor to secure the repeal of the law above referred to, and secure—

First—A reduction on seeds and other horticultural products to a rate of eight cents per pound, instead of the present charge of sixteen.

Second—A re-issue of the fractional paper currency, or the former postal notes (so-called) for use in liquidating small accounts by mail, at the sender's risk, or otherwise, as may be agreed upon.

Third—Abandonment of the present unsafe and uncommercial postal note.

Four—To secure a low rate for postal orders, which do not exceed $5, to, say, three cents.

SENATOR DAN VOORHEES has the record of a protectionist, and represents a constituency who think that way, and only upon such an issue can the Democracy carry Indiana. He has, however, begun to hedge, and now claims that the message of CLEVELAND means just the same kind of protection that his state requires. At the same time he don't propose to eat crow without a light weight protest, and goes on to state that some folks don't really know that there are two kinds of the thing, the CLEVELAND thing and the other thing, and rises to explain, as follows, which makes it clear as mud:

> A great many people use the term free trade without knowing or caring what it means. Free trade means no tariff tax, it means the abandonment of custom houses and a resort to direct taxation of states. Under such a system Indiana's proportion would be $9,000,000 or $10,000,000 a year. I don't think anybody wants to try the experiment in this or any other state.

ANOTHER insult to the patriotic soldiers of the country is offered by the bill which has been introduced to repeal the laws which render ex-Confederates ineligible to the army and navy. Great preparations have been made to push it strongly and the Democratic papers at the South are talking of it with enthusiasm. Next!

A SNOW blockade exists in Eastern Pennsylvania, one of the greatest in fifteen years. The winter that ought to be in some other parts of the country seems to have centered in that locality.

WELL ANSWERED.

SIR: Will you please inform me what is the difference between a Republican and a Democrat? Next year I shall be of age and shall cast my first vote. A VETERAN'S SON.

The above is a text for some excellent comments by the editor of the New York *Tribune*. He reminds the young veteran that the Democratic party is the same institution it was in the days of the Federalists and the Whigs, and that the Republican party is an outcome of the old Whigs and the Free-soilers; that HENRY CLAY was the great champion of tariff legislation as was ALBERT GALLATIN, the original advocate of Free trade, and that the party has at all times since been in fected with their first lessons.

He closes the argument with words too truthful to be forgotten, and too well put to be changed:

> The Republican party was recruited from the ranks of the Whigs and Free Soilers, whose consciences revolted against slavery as a legalized institution in a free country. It demanded legislation against a system of human bondage degrading alike to masters and slaves. The Democratic party from the beginning of its history until the emancipation proclamation was opposed to such legislation. When civil war burst upon the country it was only the defender of the slave-owning oligarchy; and precisely as it had opposed the Federalist doctrine of a strong, centralized National Government, it resisted coercion of the Southern States in the first instance, and for four years, while the armies were in the field, was uniformly hostile to legislation for the vigorous and successful conduct of the war. The Morrill Tariff, the Legal-Tender Act, the establishment of the National banks, emancipation and the Constitutional Amendments, the reconstruction policy and specie resumption were distinctively Republican achievements in constructive legislation. The Democratic party was opposed to each and every demand for more legislation. It wanted no legislation.
>
> What the Democratic party has been in the past it remains to this day—the party that is opposed heart and soul to legislation in behalf of national interests and social and political reforms. Under Republican tariff legislation thousands of industries have been established and American progress has become the marvel of Christendom. The Democratic party stands to-day for the repeal of that legislation—the foundation of the nation's present prosperity. The Republican party stands for the protection of those industries by legislation, and also for the protection of what should be the most sacred interest in the sight of every true man—the American home. Since the Maine law was enacted a generation ago that party has been in supreme authority in every legislature attempt for the restriction or suppression of the drink evil. In states where prohibition amendments have been carried, the Republicans have supplied the votes. In states where high-license laws have been proposed or enacted, the same party has been the active agent of social reform. The Democratic party, true to its obstructive instincts, has been the unswerving opponent, of legislation of any kind for the restriction of liquor traffic and the suppression of intemperance and all the blighting evils of drink. It never was known to vote against a barrel of whisky.

WHAT TO DO WITH THE SURPLUS.

The BLADE is in receipt of a pamphlet, in the form of an open letter to Senator MORRILL, the chairman of the Senate committee on Finance, written by Mr. WHARTON BARKER, of Philadelphia, on the proper disposition of the surplus. Mr. BARKER is a thorough friend to the cause of American industry and American labor, and he strongly opposes the President's plan of destroying the protective features of the tariff under the pretense of revenue reduction. He proposes that the surplus for the next four years be divided among the states according to population, as was done in 1836. He would repeal all taxes that are not protective, and also the tax on sugar, which has failed to protect. He is opposed to the repeal of all internal revenue taxes, because they aggregate more than the surplus, and a deficiency would result. In 1891, when the four-and-one-half per cent. bonds become redeemable, he would continue the process of reducing the public debt by calling them in.

His arguments in favor of distribution among states are: That many states are in debt beyond their ability to pay; that while the national debt has been decreasing, state, county, town and municipal debt has been increasing; that the latter debt bears on an average five per cent. interest while the government borrows at three per cent., and that the individual communities should share in the prosperity of the nation, of which they are integral parts.

Mr. BARKER'S plan of distribution is a questionable policy. The tendency would be toward renewed extravagance in the states instead of economy. The present tendency to extravagant and unworthy expenditure apparantly can only be corrected when it causes such an increase of taxation that the people will make retrenchment and economy an issue in state and municipal elections.

TO AGENTS.

We shall pay an unusually large cash commission to agents who raise clubs for the BLADE this season. In view of the approaching Presidential campaign, agents will find it an easy matter to obtain a considerable number of clubs for the BLADE during the season, and upon the liberal terms we offer, an agency for the BLADE will be worth having. We want one active agent at every postoffice. Write us for our *confidential terms to agents.*

THE St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* expresses the following opinion in regard to ROBERT LINCOLN and his eminent fitness for the Presidency:

> Among the Republican editors of Missouri, Kansas and Illinois, Robert T. Lincoln stands first on the list of Presidential preferences. He is, indeed, the choice of nearly two to one as many as favor Blaine or Sherman. There can be no doubt of Mr. Lincoln's popularity among the masses of the Republican party. Of course there is no question whatever as to the intellectual fitness for the Presidency. He is a lawyer of much more than the average ability, is thoroughly informed as to the history and tendencies of political parties, and is more familiar than most of our statesmen with the political history of the country, and the record of its leading public men, living and dead. The nomination of Robert T. Lincoln on the platform for "prot

FREE TRADE HISTORY.

Very Good Policy for England, at the Time of Its Adoption—The Struggle in the United States.

"Gath," in Cincinnati Enquirer.

It is clear to every unprejudiced man that the American manufacturing system had no partisan inception at all, while the British free trade system was the work of a political party in England, and was carried out by a trade between what was called the Manchester system and the politicians of Sir Robert Peel.

At the close of the British wars with France, there was but one navy to speak of in all Europe. The British had destroyed the navies of Denmark, Spain, France, and finally, even of Turkey, using the pretext of the Greek Revolution to abolish the Egyptian fleet, which went to the relief of Turkey against her revolutionists. This abolition of the maritime military power of the continent was more or less followed by the abolition of all their merchant marine, and hence England was ready to profit by a long peace, and immediately engage in manufacturing for the outer world, her colonial system having been enormously increased by two wars covering a period of sixty years with France and the whole Continental system.

She had acquired Canada, India and many islands, and driven Louisiana over from France to the United States, and had by her expeditions of navigation and discovery laid claim to great groups of Polynesia, such as Australia. That time was auspicious to rush her manufactures into all these countries, and even during the wars with Napoleon, when the continent was convused, she had, by her communications with it, trading interests on the Continent, and forced great quantities of goods into Hamburg and other ports adjacent to her own shores.

There was no politics about the American manufacturing system, except as connected with the interest of slavery, which commenced soon after the election of General Jackson to the Presidency, to seek grievances with the rest of the Union and chose the manufacturing interest of the North as the first point of attack, being directed thereto by Calhoun, who had lost his fuside position as General Jackson's successor, through a private and domestic quarrel in his own party.

The scheme was to scare the Northern manufacturing interests into a consideration of Mr. Calhoun's claims, and this game of bluff was continued until South Carolina was brought into direct collision with the National Democratic administration, whereupon Jackson issued his proclamations, which were written by Edward Livingston, of New York, of one of the oldest Democratic families in the country, and in the sequel the nullification laws had to be repealed.

During that conflict Calhoun found that he could not hold the South together on account of the sugar interest in Louisiana, and he, thereupon, in the language of Mr Benton, gave private notification to his school of politicians that they must cull off the hunt on the tariff and take up the slavery question.

From that time onward every endeavor was made to chase out of the South the National Republican or Whig party, and this finally succeeded about 1852, when Gen. Scott was nominated for the presidency by the Whigs through the paramount influence of the slave States of New York, which was then directed by Mr. Seward. All classes had become so frightened on the slavery issue through Mr. Clay's grudge against the Northern Whigs, and the compromise measures which he and Webster and Fillmore put through, that the Whig party lost its chief leaders in the South when Scott was nominated, although Scott was a Southern man, by birth and marriage, and was far from being the sectionalist, and, if sectional at all, was more Southern than Northern.

But the Southern Confederacy violated all its arguments and principles on the tariff issue by forthwith laying an export duty on cotton, which was in light of an internal revenue tax upon the only product of the South of much consequence. The internal revenue system therefore of both the North and the South began nearly at the same time. The manufacturing interest of this country became rather sectional because of the existence of slavery, which forbade the employment of free labor in competition with slave labor, and slaves were incapable, with their enforced ignorance, of being disciplined in miles and manufacturing systems.

The South, therefore, lost its prime advantage as a manufacturing power through its persistence in the institution of slavery. With cotton at its doors and naval stores and lumber and mineral phosphates and many other products which are now prime articles in manufacturing, it was never able to take hold of these at home until slavery was done with. A few cotton mills existed in the Southern States prior to the civil war. But they bore no comparison in numbers and quality with the manufactures which have since started in the South, and which now comprehend iron, steel, woodware, utensils, etc.

He therefore who should attempt to be a statesman in our time from the Southern States, and should lay his hand upon the infancy of the manufactures there might be a good British economist. But he would not be a good sectional servant. The agitation in many parts of the South for an uftra free trade system is both tardy and amateur in its character. The men who are doing the most talk about it do not know one from another, and probably never went through a mill with any understanding or sympathy.

It is maintained at the expense of a terrific internal revenue system which has been compelled to grasp, as government monopolies, the telegraph and many other things, for the purpose of raising revenue. There is nothing about the manufacturer which calls for him to be regarded as a cesspool or a malefactor in this country, and those who commence their argument by pointing the finger of prejudice at him would do well to ask how he commenced and under what guarantees he put his capital, neighborhood and posterity into manufacturing.

Skilled labor is all manufacturing labor, and without skilled labor there is no future for the poor man of the Southern states. The influence of slavery upon these poor whites can be discerned from the borders of Pennsylvania as far South as Alabama and the Mississippi river. Few of them know enough to build a stone wall, by merely piling the stones up without mortar. Few of them know how to raise any vegetable above a potato, and are entirely unconversant with gardening as an art. The small blacksmiths' shops and wheelwrights' places are to be found here and there, but the capacity to combine the different departments of these industries, and so make the mere shop into a factory, is still wanting, except where educated emigrants have gone, and have already made progress in organizing the male and female labor and giving it the first experience of wages in money paid in hand instead of barter.

England, with all her trade extensions, does not possess the area of free trade we have in these United States, and it is noticeable that wherever the disposition is most sullen to handicap and despoil the manufacturers, there the attempt is most frequently made to impose local license taxes upon drummers and selling agents, and thus give us, not the free trade which our unexampled system affords, but to divide us up into small areas of that kind of protection which is Arabian, and not European. The Canadians, the moment they develop from a series of isolated colonies into a Dominion or Empire, hasten to proclaim free trade throughout their state in the shape of a tariff system against the manufacturers alike of the United States and Europe.

The most singular thing about the present hostility to the manufacturing system is the indifference of the Southern politicians in Congress to their own staples which are still hampered by our internal revenue laws.

A few years ago all Kentucky was lobbying at Washington to prolong the time for keeping whisky in bond. But no voice seems to be raised in favor of taking whisky out of bond altogether and annihilating the constabulary system which is employed to watch it, and which by the temptation the system affords has brought upon us some of our most grievous scandals.

The fact that we have a surplus in the treasury is supposed to point unerringly to the necessity of "pruning the manufacturing system; but there have been worse things in this country than a surplus, and a number of the states which have taken it in hand to give us free trade fifty years hence and the time for it have been unable either to pay their debts or to maintain any credit before the world.

About 1846, after it had been resolved to admit Texas into the Union, with the ruin of slavery forced upon her, the general tariff was scaled down and the manufacturers of the North were put to their trumps. In 1848 the Whig party came into power again. It was not strong enough to restore the manufactures to their former condition, and in 1857 we had a grand financial crash, which would have remained upon the country for years but for the breaking out of the civil war, which compelled both sections to raise their duties, and thereupon the manufacturing system of the North especially assumed proportions which it had never known, and to-day it is a complete substitute for the maritime commerce, which is no longer profitable.

Had we continued to be a merely maritime power it is not probable that 5 per cent. of the immigration to this country would have seen sufficient reason to come out to it. But the manufacturing system has been the great temptation to foreign skilled labor to emigrate, while other portions of the manufacturing development, such as the railroads, have evoked from both Europe and Asia enormous quantities of capital to be invested here.

If we were to become a free trade nations to-day we should be the only one in word of any magnitude, except Great Britain, which would rather possess the markets of these states than to own India, Australia and Canada together.

TAKING BABY'S PHOTOGRAPH.

Merely a Thing or Two Learned in an Upstairs Gallery.

TAKING the baby's photograph is always a most important ceremonial, at the best. If, perchance, it happens to be the first experience of the little one as a target for the camera, and also the first experience of the fond parents as responsible managers of the wriggling, suspicious and exceedingly uncertain subject, then is the occasion a vastly more momentous one—for baby, the doting couple who came as escorts, and the photographer as well. If it is the first baby's first visit to the studio the artist has a double—or perhaps a treble—duty to perform, inasmuch as he must exert himself to please the parents in much the same manner as he does the child, not, of course, by jingling the bell, blowing the whistle or dangling a limber jack before their eyes, but by other means known so well by the artful artist, who for a brief period seemingly sees the infant prodigy through other glasses than his own. Truly, the patience of the renowned Job of sacred history was never tried as is that of the modern photographer who does an extensive business at making sun pictures of young children.

A BLADE reporter who had time enough to investigate the subject, in a room under the curtained sky-light, offers the above conclusion, without fear of its successful refutation.

"By the improved method of making instantantaneous photographs," said the artist, as he was developing a negative in the dark room, "it is a jolly picnic to take a baby, compared to what it was by the previous method, when a longer exposure was necessary with a corresponding increase of the chance of failure. And by the still older system, known as the Dagnerreotype method, when the subject had to sit still without winking or breathing while the operator counted 25 or 30—then it was fun! Nowadays we take the little people's pictures before they know it, and in whatever position they chose to assume. Now this one is a jolly little fellow who watched all my preparations philosophically, and just as I was about to spring the machine he jabbed his finger in his mouth. 'Course it's a good picture, and couldn't be more natural, but —there comes another."

GEORGE HENRY.

The interruption was caused by the entrance of a young man with his wife who carried in her arms a trim and pretty baby —yes, actually pretty, for the reporter has learned in the past few years of his life that there are pretty babies as well as the other kind. With fussing and fluffing and smoothing and adjusting of the little one by the mother, and occasional nervously offered suggestions by the father, the preparations were made while the artist prepared his plate.

The photographer's work was methodically done—setting the little open-eyed subject in a mass of drapery, and then focussing the camera, after which the real labor of the operation began. The little one would not sit still, would not keep her mouth shut, would not take her eyes off her entreating mother or proud father long enough to look at the trinket that was displayed before her. A few spasmodic strains from the operator's mouth organ finally made the baby look around to see what was broken, when click! went the machine, and the little creature's likeness was printed by the sunlight on the glass negative, and it only remained to be developed and printed in manifold copies to be idolized by the nearest relatives, praised by others, and criticised by others whose affections are lavished on a different baby altogether, and one ever so much superior to this one in every respect.

MADELINE

But all was not sunshine in the gallery on this particular afternoon, for soon after Madeline's departure a storm arose. The ominous sound of the coming tempest was first heard emanating from the elevator, then it was heard in the reception room and when it had come to the operating room it proved to be a cyclone or a typhoon. It's name was Grace and the pair of exhausted people who accompanied the baby said it was a girl, though everybody would have sworn it—she—yelled like a boy. Grace made it so entertaining for the artist that he warmed up in his work, though never betraying any signs of perturbation. He practiced all his wiles, he danced, made faces, snapped his fingers, blew his mouth-harp out of tune, jingled the bell till it clogged up and then—clicked the machine and caught the infant's pretty expression. Of course the baby was not ready, and the fond mamma would not believe that the picture looked like her darling, and consequently she did not like it.

GRACE.

When the storm had gone away again the reporter ventured out, after thanking his entertainer for the instructive diversion. But he pitted the photographer.

FOR JOHN AND MARY.

About the Income and Outgo.

For the consolation of John and Mary who have found this a hard year to make both ends meet, here are some statistics about Connecticut people that will show them that at least they are not alone proving life a hard grind and this world often a poor place to save in. Samuel M. Hotchkiss, commissioner of Labor Statistics of that state has compiled an abstract of the reports of 46 families for October, in order to show a comparison of earnings and cost of living. Twenty-nine trades and occupations are represented, pursued in all parts of the state. The interesting fact is that the expenses of the 46 families amount to more than their earnings. Says the New York *Times*; "In the 46 families were 225 persons. The amount earned for the month was $2,475.36, of which $2,006.95 was earned by 46 fathers, $40 by two mothers, $313.41 by 14 sons and $115 by six daughters. The average monthly income per family was $53.84, the average daily income per family was $1.74. The expenses for the 46 families for the month amounted to $2,760.39, divided as follows: For groceries and vegetables, $982.07; for meat and fish, $417.12; for clothing, boots and shoes $180.31; for fuel and light, $284.94; for rent, $73.10; for society dues and assessments, $36.47; for medicine and medical attendance, $82.99; for family help, $20.50; for education, books and newspapers, $30.10; for insurance, interest and taxes, $18.87; for all other expenses, $133.85. The average monthly expense per family was $60.01; the average daily per family, $1.96. The excess of family expense over fathers' wages alone was $753.44. The number of occupations represented by the 46 fatherr were 29. The average number of hours they were employed was 9¾ hours daily; days per month, 23."

What He Thought.

On the way he inquired: "Mamma, does God make skunks?"

"Why, yes, Eddie, I suppose he does," was the hesitating answer.

Eddie, after a moment's thought: "Well, if he got a good sniff of one once, I'll bet he'd never make another."—*Babyhood.*

Ordered Back.

St. Peter—Hold on, there.

New Spirit—Can't I go in?

"Who are you?"

"My name is Jay Gould."

"You take that earth right back this minute and leave it on its orbit."—*Omaha World.*

—ABUSE is not an argument against proper use. Use Warner's Log Cabin Sculpline, and your quick renewing hair will prevent any argument about its abuse. Price, $1 a bottle.

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To any New Subscriber who will CUT OUT and send us this Slip, with name and P. O. address and $1.75 in Money Order, Express Money Order, Registered Letter or Check, for a year's subscription to the Companion, we will send the paper free each week to Jan. 1st, 1888, and for a full year from that date to Jan. 1st, 1889, if ordered at once this offer will include the

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Twenty pages each, with Colored Covers and Full-page Frontispiece Pictures. They will be unusually attractive this year.

Address PERRY MASON & CO., 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass.

DIPLOMATIC FOOLS.

The Ridiculous Way in Which the United States is Represented Abroad Under the Cleveland Administration.

The Washington correspondent of the New York *World*, in citing some of the unfit appointments which have been made in the diplomatic service, among others that of a card sharper, who was sent as consul to an asiatic port, says: "Neither the diplomatic nor the consular service has been improved by the present administration. Men of experience, who had acquired a knowledge of the language spoken at their posts and a familiarity with their duties, were removed to make place for the relatives and political heelers of Senators and Representatives in Congress. Some of the best consuls have been retained, but not many. The diplomatic service has fared even worse. A few excellent men have been selected, but others have been the source of national shame. In the distribution of patronage no thought has been given to the fitness of men for the posts assigned them. Square plugs have been sent to round holes. The men chosen to represent us at the capitals of nations that are studying our political system and endeavoring to imitate our institutions, are the worst that could be selected for inspiring a respect for and confidence in the United States. Those governments designate their best thinkers and political economists for service at Washington, and never cease to wonder and regret that we are represented among them by broken-down political hacks, or clowns without manners or learning. To the South American countries, with which we are seeking trade, and where we desire close political relations, we send to compete with trained diplomatists men from the South and West who are too idle to learn the simple Spanish language as to provoke ridicule and cause mortification among the American residents.

They know nothing of commerce and care less. They seek appointments because they cannot earn the amount of their salaries elsewhere, and are given them to repay political obligations. To Siam and Japan, where we are seeking a commercial foothold, are sent rural editors and Texas boors. To the Roman Catholic court of Spain is assigned a Methodist clergyman, and to the Danish capital a Scandinavian exile. This latter person, upon the occasion of his former presentation at court, was so ignorant of official usage and good manners as to attempt to engage in a familiar conversation with the queen, to the amusement of her majesty, but to the mortification of the American colony. Realizing the incident, he remarked that he wanted to show the queen that he could talk Danish as well as she.

The Kentucky gentleman who was selected to conduct our diplomatic relations with the United States of Columbia has not been at Bogota three months when he was recalled in disgrace for having brutally assaulted the secretary of legation because the latter disagreed with him about some official matter.

The Minister to Argentine Republic was selected, it is said, because of his ability to relate a good joke, or at least that is accounted as one reason for his popularity.

The minister who was sent to Peru was from Kentucky. Not long after his arrival a dinner was given in his honor, at which he was the only man that did not appear in evening dress. Some days after another dinner was given, to which he was invited, and some naval officer who had met him at the first attempted to see that he went in good form. To their surprise they found that there was not such a thing as a dress coat in his wardrobe. They fixed him out in borrowed finery for that occasion, and the next day persuaded him to go to a tailor.

He was more docile than the ex-Governor of Texas, who has been sent to teach the aspiring people of Japan American ethics and American manners. That individual asked for free transportation to his post, from the steamship company, not only for himself, but his entire family, and this courtesy, equivalent to $2,000 was given him. During the voyage he kept the stewards busy mixing stimulants, and at the end of the first week, when his wine bill was presented, he refused to pay it on the ground that he was the guest of the steamship company. Before he left San Francisco he made a speech, which was reported verbatim in the newspapers, and sent to Japan on the same steamer on which he sailed. In this he referred to the Japanese Government and people in an undignified and offensive manner, and took no pains after his arrival to counteract the impression thereby made that he was at least indifferent to their good will. Soon after his arrival the pastor of the English church at Tokio called on the Minister to tender him the courtesy of a pew in the chapel.

"I am not a church-going man, myself," said his Excellency; "I haven't been to meeting for years, but mebbe some of the women might want to go sometimes, and I reckon we better take the pew."

A naval officer relates that he called at the legation one day and found a Japanese nobleman standing in the vestibule in a bewildered manner. Knocking at the door, it was opened by a very stout person in his shirt sleeves, and without a collar, who asked what was wanted.

"The American minister," was the reply.

"Well, I'm the man; what do you want?" said that dignitary, still standing in the doorway.

The Texas papers have published a letter from the ex-governor, in which he denies the reports concerning his antics and his failure to comprehend the dignity of the mission intrusted to him, and then proceeds to tell his friends what "a high old time" he is having among the Japanese, and what a lark it is to be an envoy extraordinary at an Oriental court.

The government and the people of Japan and Siam are trying to imitate the United States. They regard our country as the most advanced and civilized of the earth. They send their officials here to study our institutions, and their young men to our colleges to be educated for teachers at home. And our government sends as its representatives at their capital men who are not even familiar with the customs of polite society, and whose only recommendation is their political preference. Our representative at the court of Siam was an editor of an obscure weekly paper in Southwestern Missouri, and was never outside the limits of his state until he received his appointment. Some odd stories are told of his uncouthness by those who know him, but what the Siamese think of him has not been disclosed. He has written letters to his paper about the country that would be amusing if they did not reveal his lamentable unfitness for the responsibilities he has assumed.

A Dozen Leeches.

The following from the Spanish is as good as ever:

There was in a small village a man exceedingly sick, and the physician prescribed to apply immediately half a dozen leeches. "Why have you been so long?" said the physician to the servant who went for them. "There were none to be had in the drug store; I had to go to the pharmacy." "Did you find any there?" "No, sir, the pharmacist told me to go to Uncle Blas' garden and take them from the pond." Very well, but are they not rather, very small?" "Yes, but the pond was so muddy that I could not get any." "Then you have come back without them?" "No, sir, the half dozen is complete in the parlor." When the doctor went to get them, he found the judge, the attorney general, the lawyer, the notary public, the solicitor, and the constable.

Christmas Colors.

The colors for Christmas are white and gold, and there is no more joyful combination of color. White is the perfection all colors and always the emblem of holiness and purity. Yellow may not be used with the same significance as white, representing joy and gladness. The two colors typify joy, gladness and life. The other colors suitable for Christmas are red, which symbolizes God's love, and green for the bountifulness of God. It is well to remember these colors in Christmas gifts, and so make use of them.

Alarming ontortions.

Passenger (on street-car, alarmed)—Madam, do you feel a fit coming on?

Madam (haughtily)—No, sir; I'm trying to find my pocket.

Have you seen Dr. Stockham's Tokology?

FASHION NOTES.

What the Fickle Goddess Prescribes for Her Devotees to Wear.

A pretty vest for a basque is formed of many rows of picot-edged ribbon, with the edges lapping over each other.

Some of the new silk stockings for wear at balls and operas are open-worked and embroidered with tinsel.

The newest gloves are all shades of red, from deep *sang de boeuf* Charles X pink, and the backs are always embroidered with heavy silk stitching one shade lighter than the glove.

All street jackets have some sort of braiding The handsomest show tinsel braiding on the waistcoats, but very popular are those of dark blue, edged all around with a cording of black astrakhan and black braiding of rich and heavy design.

A street costume worn by a pretty brunette was a tailor gown of light-gray cloth of very rough finish. It was trimmed only with many rows of gray silk stitching. The coat was of gray astrakhan; a small, gray velvet toque, with two gray tinsel-sprinkled quills, completed the very becoming costume.

A very pretty and simple dress is of Gobelin blue cashmere, the plain skirt trimmed with a deep row of brown braiding of the sort that comes in pailteras ready to be appliqued. The long curtain draperies are of the untrimmed cashmere, and the plain basque bodice has the brown braid appliqued back and front in V shape, the collar and cuffs being also braided.

Bridesmaids' dresses are of white satin. An overdress of some light material, *point d'esprit* or embroidered silk mull, is usually worn. The corsages are in best taste when high, but V-cut bodices are not infrequent. They are never very decollete.

Wedding parties all in white are at present preferred, but at a recent one where the bride and all her maiden train were brunettes, all but she were in pale pink. The plain waists and V cut bodices were of pink moire, and these were draped and trimmed with the softest and palest of pink silk mull. Each bridesmaid carried a huge bunch of American beauty roses, tied with floating moire of the prevailing color.

There is a strenuous effort being made by the milliners to introduce large bonnets and hats made of shirred and pleated velvet. All these hats and bonnets are of eccentric shape, and a few with *bizarre* tastes are encouraging the attempt to popularize them, but they are not neat and trim enough to suit the tastes of those who dress with care, and they are not likely to have a long and fair day.

Coachman coats of tan-colored livery cloth and large black felt hats are pretty worn together by blonde girls of eight or ten years, while for petite brunettes are long red coats, with towering high red felt hats with black ostrich plumes and black watered ribbon loops. Some of the newest large hats have the sides tied down over the ears by a ribbon passing over the crown.

The coachman cloaks so much worn by children are long enough to conceal the dress beneath, and are made double-breasted, with two large double-box pleats in the back, with square pocket-flaps on the side, and a deep cape-like collar, or else they have separate collars of fur, which may be black, with either tan or red coats, or may be of beaver.

Children who take part in church weddings wear smocked gowns of white India silk, with high neck, leg o' mutton sleeves and accordion-pleated skirt, trimmed only with feather stitching about the deep hem. For Christmas parties cashmeres and serges are made up for the little people in bright poppy red, pink, copper-colored and Gobelin blue, trimmed with braid, or else velvet of a contrasting shade, and they usually have white guimpes of embroidered muslin.

Little prince suits of black velveteen are worn by small boys to these Christmas parties. The jacket only buttons once, at the top, and slopes away to show the waistcoat of white pique. The deep round collar and wide cuffs are of white linen with an embroidered ruffle, and the large cravat bow is of white silk or white surah. The long stockings are of heavy quality of black silk and the shoes are patent leather pumps, or else button shoes foxed with patent leather.

Among the many clever devices for giving variety to plain dresses is to cut the bodice front out slightly at the throat and trim it with a small medici collar. There are then prepared half a dozen inside collars of various styles of muslin to wear with it. These are made by laying upon the foundation of stiff muslin half a dozen overlapping folds of the surah and adding a tiny chemisette of the surah shirred. This collar closes in the back where the juncture is concealed by the medici collar of the waist, and may be made for street wear, and of blue, white, strawberry or Charles X. pink for the house.

Bonnets for afternoon teas, weddings and receptions are nearly all white, that is the crowns are of either white plush, velvet or faille francaise embroidered with gold. These crowns are put on full, and the brims, strings and trimmings are of green, red, copper or Gobelin-blue velvet. One of cream-white plush, embroidered in gold fleur de lis, had the narrow brim covered with velvet and strings of the same. Three little olive-green ostrich tips, forming a cluster, from which rose an aigrette of white and gold heron feathers, formed the trimming; other strings were held in place by two little gold pins made in the shape of fleur de lis.

UNDER THE BLUE LIGHT.

A Buffalo Lady's Ingenious Plan of Worrying Her Rivals.

A gentleman who was invited out to dine at a Delaware avenue residence lately observed that the chandelier over the dining-room table was of a peculiar construction, so that there was a light over the head of each guest. The globes were of various colors, some amber, some red and some blue. "What is the object of having the globes of different colors?" the guest asked his hostess. "Why, you see, said she, "when one gives a dinner or tea, one must invite some people whom one perfectly hates. Now last Tuesday I gave a supper, and I had to invite two women whom I despise. But I had to invite them or some of the young men I wanted would not come. I had my revenge on my fair enemies, however. I placed each of these two women under one of those pale blue lights at the table. They're usually considered beautiful women, but under that light they had the most ghastly look you ever saw. They were perfect scarecrows. They seemed to have aged twenty years the minute that they sat down. The men noticed it, of course, but they did not divine what caused it. They were quite taken aback and awfully glum at first. But finally one of them with a sigh turned and began talking to a real homely little thing that was sitting under a ruby-colored light. Why, she was perfectly charming under it. So you see that when I want people to look perfectly hideous I put them under the blue lights. It kills everything." The gentleman looked up. He was under a blue light.—*Buffalo Courier.*

Retort Witty.

Church was over, and, as usual, a company of women were standing about the door-way talking and laughing, though probably not concerning the sermon. Soon a young man acquainted with the group approached saying: "Aren't you ever going home? You are blocking up the way like Baalam's ass." "You are wrong there," replied a young lady with a toss of her head. "It was the angels who blocked the way and the ass made a fuss about it."—*Boston Times.*

Knabe Pianos for Executive Mansions.

From the Baltimore American.

Messrs. Wm. Knabe & Co. have just furnished to Gov. Beaver, of Pennsylvania, a beautiful upright grand piano, ordered by him for the executive mansion at Harrisburg. The case is of artistic style in rich variegated rosewood, and the instrumental part of the highest order of merit, with a tone of very rich and sympathetic quality, and a touch of remarkable ease and elasticity. A very fine concert grand was supplied by them recently to Fitzhugh Lee for the executive mansion at Richmond, Va., which excepting on some of the outside ornamentation of the case, is a facsimile of the celebrated White House Knabe grand, the piano of the President's mansion, described in our columns heretofore.

Publishers' Column.

THE UNION OR FAMILY SCALE.

The price of this Scale is $5.00, and we offer with THE WEEKLY BLADE one year for $4.25. Useful in any family. Weighs from ½ oz. up to 240 lbs.

These scales are sent by express or freight at the expense of the purchaser. Address THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

ANEROID BAROMETER.

As a fitting successor to the celebrated Waterbury watch, of which the BLADE has sold nearly twenty thousand, we offer the Aneroid barometer in nickel-plated case, with suspensory ring and feet to stand on mantel, enameled open card dial 2¾ inches in diameter, glass front with indicator and register-pointer, (or brass hand) which, when set over indicator shows whether the barometer is rising or falling. This is a most complete and useful instrument. The protection they now afford to life and property throughout the world by foretelling weather changes and the approach of violent storms is worth millions of dollars every year. The U. S. Signal Service says: "After investigating 600 tornadoes we have found that a fall of the barometer goes before a storm." The barometer falls usually from 12 to 48 hours before a rain, and from "much rain" to "stormy," a few hours before a violent storm. No farmer or other person whose work has to be done out of doors, or whose property is liable to damage or loss by rain, can afford to do without one. Many a time one will save five times its cost in a single day. Before a storm reaches you it will tell you whether it will be light or dangerous. It will tell you when to cut grass with safety, and how long you can leave hay or grain out to dry, when to sow seed before a rain, and if you intend going to a fair or festival with your family, whether you will have a pleasant day of comfort and enjoyment, or a day of rain and discomfort. No person owning a good barometer will ever consent to do without it.

This instrument must not be compared with the cheap glass instruments that the country has been flooded with. It is made on scientific principles and is as fine a piece of mechanism as the most expensive watch. It retails regularly at $5, but having ordered a large quantity made for clubbing with the BLADE, we are enabled to offer the BLADE one year, and one of these barometers prepaid to any address on receipt of $4.50. Address THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

STEEL ENGRAVING OF BUNYAN'S PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.

We have a few copies left of this elegant $10 steel-plate engraving, which has heretofore been described at length in the BLADE. We have sent out several thousand in connection with the BLADE, and they have all given excellent satisfaction. Until our stock is exhausted or until further notice, we will send to any address one of these engravings with one year's BLADE one year for $2.

CHRIST BEFORE PILATE.

Munckessy's celebrated painting of "Christ Before Pilate" is one of the grandest paintings of modern times. This painting recently sold for $120,000 cash. Everybody is familiar with its history. Briefly described, it represents the figure of our Savior with his hands bound, erect, composed, gazing steadfastly on the face of Pilate, who sits in judgment on the throne. Around and behind crowd the rabble of Jerusalem, some frantic, others idlers. Also conspicuously appear in the scene Caiaphas the Accuser, Roman soldier holding the mob in check, two elders, a rich banker, a young rowdy, a young mother holding child, and others apparently bent on killing time. The BLADE has purchased a large quantity of Photo Etchings of this celebrated painting, printed on heavy plate paper, size 21x28 inches. This photo etching is a fac-simile of the original picture, and a perfect reproduction. It has been always sold for one dollar. We have determined to sell thousands of them very quickly, and therefore offer them postpaid by mail to our readers at 25 cents each. Address the BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

THE BLADE'S PORTRAIT GALLERY.

We have published ten different portraits, which we offer to our readers at a price that will enable all to decorate their homes cheaply and well, viz:—

MILITARY HEROES—Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Logan.

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These portraits are all printed upon heavy plate paper, size 19 by 24 inches, just the size for framing for the parlor or sitting room, and good enough for any house in the land. They are all exquisite works of art, and are certain to give satisfaction. We pack them securely in pasteboard tubes and send them postpaid at the following prices:

Any one portrait	$ 25
The five divines	80
The four generals	65
The entire set of ten	1 40

Agents can do a good thing for themselves selling these pictures. Special rates made known upon application. Address BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

TO TEMPERANCE WORKERS.

Important and Effective Helps—Two Indispensable Documents.

At the request of thousands of Temperance organizations, we have printed and have ready for delivery, the following important documents:

1. Does Prohibition Prohibit? Being the truthful result of a tour through Maine, by D. R. Locke, Editor of the Blade. An impartial, truthful presentation of the subject, and every line a fact.
2. The Effect of Beer upon the Human System, being the testimony of Ten of the Most Eminent Physicians of Toledo, Ohio, as to the effect of Lager Beer, showing how the use of the stuff affects the various organs of the Human Body.

These documents are printed in eight large pages each, and should be circulated every where in the United States. No more telling matter was ever printed, and no more useful help was ever devised in the great work of Delivering the Rum Power."

Prohibition Committees, Temperance organizations, open and secret, should spread them by the million.

We furnish them at cost of printing, posting, and packing, as follows:

10,000 lots	$30 00
5,000 lots	5 00
2,000 lots	4 00
100 lots	1 00

Sample dozen, by mail, post-paid, 25 cents. Single copies each, 5 cents.

Order at once and spread the light. If you want your neighbor to know exactly what Prohibition has done for Maine send for the leaflet on that subject, and if you want him to know what Beer is doing for the world send for the other. Both should be circulated by the million.

Address, (enclosing cash,) BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

Temperance Cartoons—To Temperance Workers and Organizations.

We have published for as near gratuitous circulation as possible, five striking cartoons, illustrating the working of Rum as opposed to Temperance, of which millions have been sold all over the United States. They are intended to instruct the people through the eye. They are as follows:

No. 1.—Do you see any good coming out of it?

No. 2.—Which way would you have your Boy Go?

No. 3.—Which way would you have your Girl Go?

No. 4.—In which village would you bring up your Children?

No. 5.—This Farmer never drank Whisky. This Farmer drinks all he can get.

These pictures are the most effective instructors that have ever been published. They contrast the life of the drunkard and sober man, in property, wife and children, so sharply that he who runs may read, and understand as well Millions of them have been pasted up in shops, on fences and dead walls, where they may be seen of men, and millions more should be.

We have made a price on these cartoons, which barely covers the cost of paper and postage:

Three copies of either	6 cents.
Six copies	10 cents.
Twenty-five copies	30 cents.
One Hundred copies	One dollar.

This gives no profit, the price covering only cost of printing, paper and postage. We contribute wrapping-paper and labor.

Send in your orders immediately, and paste them up where they will do the most good.

L. S. L.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $150,000

"We do hereby certify that we supervise the arrangements for all the Monthly and Semi-Annual Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drawings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorize the Company to use this certificate, with fac-similes of our signatures attached, in its advertisements."

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Commissioners.

We, the undersigned Banks and Bankers will pay all Prizes drawn in the Louisiana State Lotteries which may be presented at our counters.

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A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A FORTUNE. FIRST GRAND DRAWING, CLASS A, IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, January 10, 1888, —212th Monthly Drawing.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $150,000.

Notice.—Tickets are Ten Dollars only. Halves, $5. Fifths, $2. Tenths, $1.

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1 CAPITAL PRIZE OF	$150,000	$150,000
1 GRAND PRIZE OF	50,000	50,000
1 GRAND PRIZE OF	20,000	20,000
2 LARGE PRIZES OF	10,000	20,000
4 LARGE PRIZES OF	5,000	20,000
20 PRIZES OF	1,000	20,000
50 "	500	25,000
100 "	300	30,000
200 "	200	40,000
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MISS EMILY S. BOUTON . . . . EDITOR.

HOME TALKS.

THE CHRISTMAS TIDE.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

"It is the calm and silent night!
A thousand bells ring out, and throw
Their joyous peals abroad, and smite
The darkness—charmed and holy now!
The night that erst no name had worn—
To it a happy name is given;
For in that stable lay, new-born,
The peaceful Prince of earth and heaven,
In the solemn midnight
Centuries ago."

Centuries ago! A strange and thrilling thought it is, even to those who may doubt the divinity of Christ, that the birth of one little innocent child, whose thread of life seemed just as frail and delicate as that of the hundreds and thousands of other little ones born into the world, should have caused the centuries to echo with his name and works, should have set such a tide of holy thought in motion as to shake the ages with its influence, should have made the great heart of nations throb with joy at the glad tidings.

"The morning stars sang together." It has always seemed to me that no other expression could have conveyed the grandeur of a Christ's coming. The wonderful, far-away, glorious suns rolling on in everlasting splendor, giving utterance in song to their joy over a redeemed world—what could have conveyed the thought better of a universal rejoicing of God's creatures over the dawning of a new spiritual era upon the earth.

It does not matter if the day we celebrate is not the precise anniversary of the birth of Jesus, that it was two or three hundred years after His coming before Christmas was made a season of joy. In fact, the first mention of it is found in some quaint and ancient catalogue of church festivals in the year 354, but it seemed to spring at once into recognition by the multitudes, for we read that in a brief six years after, the churches in Rome were thronged to witness its ceremonies, and in a half century there were none in all Christendom who did not unite in the songs of gladness which made a part of the festival.

It seems strange that so long a time elapsed before it was thought best to consecrate one part of the year to rejoicings over an event so important to mankind. The early Fathers, in time, saw, that what were termed heathen festivals carried with them the hearts of the people, and no doubt, it was this consciousness that gave birth to the Christmas festival in honor of Christ's coming. The day was chosen, in order that it might take the place of the Feast of Saturn which occurred the latter part of December, or in the closing days of the year. Perhaps the knowledge that Christ was probably not born upon the 25th of December, and that the exact date is not known, may detract from the sacredness of the season to some hearts, but it need not. He came and His mission was accomplished, then why should it matter as to the exact day and hour.

The mystic rites, and the joyous, as well as the solemn ceremonies, that mark the day, have come to us from many different sources, so many that it is hard to trace them all. The custom of lighting the yule log was borrowed by the English from the Scandinavians, who used to build great fires upon the hill-tops to honor the sun's return after his long absence. In England, it was a token of the warmth and good cheer which was to prevail in the house during the coming year. A funny thing was its bringing in to the great hall where it was to be lighted. With shouts of merry laughter, amid the assembled household, the youngest child was seated upon it, and then it was drawn in over the threshold and to the immense fire-place piled high with logs, which were to be lighted from the incoming yule log, when it was nicely blazing.

The trimming with evergreens has become so much a part of our observance of Christmas that few stop to think that it was not a custom of Christian birth, but came from the Druids, that ancient order of priests whose chief headquarters were in England in the days of long ago, and who, it is maintained by some writers, were the first to teach in Western Europe, the immortality of the soul. The use of the mistletoe too, was a part of their religion, they regarding it as something so sacred that its finding was always made the occasion of great rejoicing.

It would be hard to tell where all the old superstitions which are held regarding the Christmas season, especially among the lower classes, in the countries over the sea, came from. In England, it is said that at midnight on the twenty fourth of December, the echoes of deep toned bells can be heard underground, and the miners say, that strange beings perform high mass in chambers deep in the bowels of the earth, with invisible choristers chanting, white wonderful candles, not of mortal make, shine down upon an altar decked in cloths such as no loom of earth can weave.

Such superstitions as these find small lodgment among the practical folk of this country. The only vestige is the belief of the children in the wonderful Santa Claus, the man of gifts, who dwells, no one knows where, but who, in some mysterious way, knows what each child wants how good or how ill he has behaved, and apportions his gifts accordingly. He lives in no-man's land, and the childish imagination is fired by the thought of the untold treasures gathered there.

These bright fancies are apt to remain with us even when experience and knowledge have driven beliefs away. I do not believe that I have ever yet awakened upon a Christmas morning without drowsily listening for the tread of reindeer feet upon the roof, and the ringing of bells upon the wintry air. It is a pretty thought and makes the heart warm and the day bright, even though the later waking shows a more prosaic reality.

A charming little poem, entitled "Christmas in the Woods," by Harrison Weir, tells of the joy of two little birds at the coming of the merry day:

"There, under the boughs, in their wintry dress,
Haps many a tender greeting;
Blithe hearts have met and the soft caress
Hath told the delight of meeting.
Though winter hath come
To his wonderful home,
There is mirth with old Christmas cheer,
For 'neath the light snow
Is the fruit fraught bough,
And each to his love is near."

In that last line lies the key to all the beauty and glory of the day. If our loved ones are only near, if mortal sickness has not saddened our homes, if there be no vacant chair whose emptiness our sore hearts have not yet grown accustomed to, then the Christmas bells should bring joy and peace, even though disappointments have clustered in our pathway until we have grown brain sick and utterly weary. For this one day throw care to the winds, as do the birds of the woods.

"Yes, under the boughs, scarce seen, nestle they,
Those children of song together,—
As blissful by night, as joyous by day,
Mid the snows and the wintry weather.
For they dream of spring
And the songs they sing,
When the flowers bloom again in the spring;
And mindful are they
Of those blossoms gay
Which have brought them to-day
Such help in the time of need!"

And if, perchance, the loved one is not "near" to mortal perception, remember still that the Christmas bells may bring joy to your heart, because they tell of One whose nearness is always that of a loving elder Brother, who keeps the dear absent ones in infinite peace to await your coming.

Dear friends, one and all, may the Christmas tide of 1887 bring you exceeding joy!

FANCY WORK AND HOUSE DECORATION.

Tidies.—These articles make very pretty Christmas presents. One that is quite novel and unique is made of chamois skin. Have a skin cut about 16 inches one way and 20 inches the other. Paint the ends across, or what will do as well, use the liquid bronzing, in bands of red and green for three inches, then cut a fringe two and a half inches up, leaving one of the colored bands as a heading. In the center of the tidy paint ahandsome design of fruit or flowers, something in which the colors will contrast well with the yellow background. Embroidery may be used instead of painting if liked, although the latter is prettier.

Another one is made in the form of a scarf in this way: Get a piece of cream white momie cloth, a half yard wide and two yards long. Put a hem an inch wide all around. Upon one end have several parallel rows of satin ribbon, No. 7 in width, about an inch apart, and of different colors. Fasten the edges of each down with fancy stitches. Put tassels across that end. Gather the other end together and put a large bow of ribbons made of the same colors as those across the other end. Have a good many loops and ends. Now fasten this end upon one side of the chair near the top. Carry the tidy across the top and tie it in a loose knot so that the end may fall scarf fashion at the side. This is very pretty if arranged gracefully, and may be varied in its making and coloring to suit the makers.

Calendar.—A very nice Holiday present is one which was described some time ago in *Good Cheer:*

The dantiest of calendars can be made of a bit of card-board and ribbons, pretty enough to hang anywhere one may wish to place them.

Cut a piece of card-board six inches long and nine wide. The color may be white, cream, or any shade that is most pleasing. Slits are then cut crosswise in the board six slits, but three rows; therefore two slits must come together, one directly beneath the other, about half an inch apart, and each one should be cut a little more than an inch and a half wide to admit a ribbon of that width to be easily drawn through, and each row must be lower than the preceding one. The ribbon is gros grain and any color that will contrast well with the color of the card-board. Each one should measure one yard and a half long, and is doubled, the end at the back merely cut slanting; that which hangs in front is turned in to form a point, and on the end of the point a little fancy gilt or brass bell, which is much used for decorating.

The ribbon is then run through the slits in such a way that it will pass from the back of the board through one slit, is drawn over the front of the board, and through the other slit to the back, and must pass through easily so that the ribbon can be drawn back and forth at pleasure.

On the first ribbon, paint in gold letters the days of the week, leaving space enough between the words so that only one shall appear on the loop of ribbon, which shows on the face of the board when drawn through. On the next, paint the twelve months in the same way, and, on the third, the days of the month, giving it thus: Tuesday, May 17th.

To relieve the extreme simplicity of the card, as it is with only the ribbons, a small thermometer is sewed in the lower corner beneath the first loop, and in the upper corner, above the last loop a little water-color sketch, or, for those who are not familiar with the use of the brush, a pretty scrap book picture can be selected and pasted in the corner.

The card is then hung with ribbons matching those used as indicators. They are useful not only as calendars, but as thermometers also.

Bureau Lining.—Get pink and white cheese cloth, using the white for one side and the pink for the other. Between them lay a layer of cotton batting, and sprinkle it over with sachet powder. Tack them together as you would a comforter, with bright-colored floss. Then button-hole the edge or bind it with ribbon.

Mrs. C., "Fancy Work and House Decoration" will not only help you about holiday gifts, but will help you in general house decoration. Send 25 cents to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O., and get one.

Coal Gloves.—A very good thing to have in a sick room, where coal is used in an open grate or stove, are these gloves. Cut two pieces of black velvet or velveteen of the shape of a mitten, only beside the thumb, cut also the fore finger. The back may be embroidered if liked, or left plain. Sew them together upon the wrong side, turn and bind the wrist with bright colored ribbon, having a loop of the same to hang it up by.—ED.

KNITTING AND CROCHETING.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and k, slip and knit; o, yo, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; d ch st, chain stitch; d c st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; r t st, crossed treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o s st, open shell stitch; t, treble; sh c, short crochet.

Lady's Knitted Undervest.—(Low neck, short sleeves.)—Materials—Six ounces of Starlight Shetland wool. Use No. 10 steel needles. Cast on each of three needles 88 stitches, 264 in all. 1st round—Rounds of 6 plain, seam 6, alternately, which forms ribbing, then leave 22 ribs for the back, and knit the front backwards and forwards for 13 rows; rib 48 stitches, bind off until there are only 48 stitches on the left-hand needle, rib these, and continue knitting backwards and forwards, knitting 2 together twice at the beginning of every fourth row, at the side the stitches were bound off, till there are 28 stitches; on these knit 6 rows; bind off. Join wool to the 48 stitches at the beginning of front, and knit them to correspond with the side already done; knit 18 rows backwards and forwards on the back, then knit 48 stitches, bind off till there are but 48 on the needle, and knit the shoulders to correspond with the fronts, sew up the shoulders, work a row of double crochet round the neck, then 3 rows of treble. 5th row—2 treble crochet, 2 chain, miss 2, repeat all round. 6th row—1 double crochet between the treble crochet, 5 treble crochet in the space formed by 2 chain. Work the arm-holes to correspond, and run a ribbon in holes at neck.

Crochet Skirt with Roman Stripe.—Materials: Sixteen ounces of knitting worsted and bone crochet hook. 2 balls of garnet, 1 ball of brown, 1 ball of black, 1 ball of pink, 1 ball of olive, 1 ball of blue, and 8 balls of gray.

With garnet wool make a chain of 225 stitches, and crochet a row of short crochet stitches. Then join the two rows together in a circle. All the other rounds are made in short crochet stitch, taking up the front part of the stitch, and instead of putting the hook under the wool and thus drawing it through, as you usually do, put the hook over the wool and draw it through.

Make 9 rows with garnet, 2 rows with yellow, 2 rows with white, 2 rows with black, 2 rows with pink, 2 rows with olive, 9 rows with blue, 2 rows with yellow, 2 rows with white, 2 rows with black, 2 rows with pink, 2 rows with olive, 9 with garnet, and 70 rows with gray.

The ordinary short crochet can be employed in working the gray wool, if desired, as it is worked much faster and looks exceedingly pretty.

Narrow in the 2d row, with gray wool every ten stitches; 1 stitch, miss 1, and in the 22d every 9th stitch, and in the 42d every 8th stitch, and in the 62d every 7th stitch.

DAME FASHION'S VOICE.

Red and blue combined in wool dresses so much liked in autumn are fashionable for winter.

Water proof costumes to take the place of the ugly water proof mantles are coming in style.

There is a growing tendency says the *Season*, to wear the hair low in the neck.

Bustles are slowly but surely diminishing in size.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LETTERS AND LETTER WRITING.—All persons do not value letters or the privilege of letter-writing to the same extent and all letters are not of equal value. We often hear persons say, "Oh, I like to receive letters, but do so hate to answer." This makes one sick about writing to such persons, even if they are dear friends. What a blessing the United States mail is to many! How much we prize letters! We cannot receive too many of those silent messages of friendship. Some are so selfish that they see no sense nor use in spending money in postage. If such persons go to heaven, they will, undoubtedly see no sense in so much rejoicing, nor use in such a large crowd being there. When we are from home, we enjoy a long letter filled with trifles, interesting to us only. Then those letters from school mates, dear friends and companions! Sometimes while reading a letter, we seem by its tone, to hear the writer speaking in the distance; in another we catch a glimpse of her; in another, we notice a wave of the hand; in another, a smile; in another, the warm clasp of the hand; in another, she seems to sit down familiarly in conversation, while in still another we feel the embrace of friendship, true, pure and lasting. How can one say, "Oh, I hate to write letters," after receiving one so full of all that makes conversation pleasant.

We can all write acceptable letters if we try. I do not know whether my letters are interesting or not, as I just write all the sense and nonsense that comes into my head, until I have the sheet filled, then turn it to the side and write across the top margin, and sometimes I write two or more sheets, which is all very well, unless the P. M. gets suspicious and weighs it, then I must use an extra stamp. Perhaps I might throw some hints about how, when, and to whom to write. I have said how I fill a letter, still we must be careful how the sense and nonsense enters our heads and use our best judgment in dealing out to different persons, as what might prove amusing to one would be offensive to another. Therefore, we should know the disposition of the person to whom we write, and there is no better way of ascertaining the real nature of one than by corresponding a short time.

When to write letters. Oh! at all times, to be sure. Some should be answered right away, others not for a few days, while others may wait two or three weeks, but don't it let run into months, and some "rainy day" sit down and write out a half sheet telling her that you didn't write for some time, send your love (which she'll doubt), sign your name, jump up and say, "I'm glad that letter is answered." I say again don't do this, for we all can take time to write to a friend.

Another thing, don't, as soon as you marry, stop writing to all your friends except your mother-in-law. I often wonder why girls, as soon as they marry, drop their old friends. Surely they cannot find a more than compensation for all those merry letters and friends of their youth in one creature, and he a man, or does that one say, "Now you are mine and must live for me alone, and instead of spending time writing to those 'giddy girls' take the time to darn my socks, patch and sew buttons on?" If a friend is sick, or in trouble, then it is that your letters will be appreciated. Don't think because she is sick she will not care for letters. When one is not well enough to be very active a letter breaks the monotony and leads us to forget ourselves for a time. The letters we receive during sickness strengthen our friendship for the writers.

Don't forget your relatives. I believe there are brothers and sisters living in the United States not so very far apart, who are almost strangers, and if they would only write a little in spare moments and send a letter, well say, every two or three months, the feeling of relationship would not be lost. Never write unkind remarks, and don't leave religion entirely out of your letters. Let there be a current of genuine truth flowing through, as to whom to write—why that is for you to arrange; but don't write to those for whom you feel neither sympathy nor friendship. Still write to some one.—MOLLIE J. DUFF, Denny, Butler county, Pa.

MORE ABOUT THE ANIMALS.—I want to shake hands with the editor of the HOUSEHOLD, and call her sister. I am always glad when some one speaks a word in defense of poor dumb animals, and I was more than glad to read her article. I have almost wished sometimes that I was deaf and blind, when I have seen some poor animal abused and tortured. Not long ago I called on a lady, and her little girl went to a drawer in a bookcase and brought to me a little kitten, some four or five days old, and as the little creature would crawl away as she sat it on the floor, and mew, the child would take up the kitty and pound it with her little fists, and the mother sat perfectly unconcerned. It made me so nervous that I spoke to the child, and told her that she was doing a very wicked thing to hurt the kitty so. The child looked up and said: "That don't hurt kitty, does it, mamma?"

I wish more was said and written on that subject. How common it is that the young of these animals live while they are small and cute, and then when half grown to take them off and lose them somewhere, to be chased here and there by malicious curs and still more malicious boys, often made cripples, or torn by cruel jaws, when the poor, hired, hunted creature, no longer able to run fast, unable to fight, is shot or sinks exhausted to its fate. And yet the one who so cruelly dropped the little creature would not hear of drowning it when it was small. Oh, no! they are too tender hearted to have them put out of the way in a merciful manner. My heart aches every day as I see the poor little starved creatures clubbed and stoned, and dogs set on them as they try to prowl around and find a bit of something to eat. I have seen them in such a pitiable condition that I don't like to think of it. Much as I pity the poor little creatures, I cannot care for them all, but I feed a great many in the course of a year. I would hail with joy the good Samaritan people to either take care of these animals or put them to a merciful death. I pray that the time will soon come when the people will become so Christianized that teacher and parents will teach the children to be kind to all animals, and the world will be the better for it. I always feel there is something lacking in the organism of any person that can sit quietly by and see a dumb animal abused. I have spoken to many a man in the streets for whipping a horse, and I never had one say anything bad or saucy to me for it. I think if mothers would take the trouble to teach their little ones from the earliest moment of their lives to be kind to all the little creatures that they come in contact with, as they grow to be men they would be kind to larger animals. I heard a noted evangelist say that he "doubted the piety of any man that would abuse a horse or any animal under his care, or any parent that would allow their children to abuse a cat or dog." I thank you a thousand times for the words you said in defence of our dumb animals.

And now will you allow a tired woman to thank Philo F. Phinney, M. D., for his defence of women. His article is full of truth, that those who look about them will see every day. I heard a son say only a few months ago, that his mother had no right to complain at his father's will, as she was provided for, with home as long as she lived. And yet that mother had spent 54 years of married life, in working hard to get, and keep a good home, and never but once in her life was more than 10 miles from her home; and as I can testify, for 20 years had the burden of caring for everything and taking care of her husband, who died with consumption. All these 54 years she had lived on the same farm and in the same house, and every foot of land and room in the house was endeared to her by ten thousand memories. But when the father died the son sold the place and the old lady must move and when she cried her son thought he was insulted, because mother was provided for. There are hundreds of such cases all over the country, women working with aching hearts and limbs, bearing burdens that ought to be borne by broader shoulders, receiving no thanks and looking for none as experience has taught them better. I am glad to know that now and then we may find a man who realizes that women are not appreciated as she ought to be by the majority of mankind.—COUSIN BESSIE.

INQUIRIES.

Please give a recipe for old-fashioned gingerbread?—S. SKINNER.

How are oyster crackers made? How are frosted ginger snaps made?—T. B.

Will some one give directions for making yoke and sleeves of chemise of novelty braid?—C. B.

Please give a pretty tidy for a piano stool. What is the proper covering for a commode?—E. I.

Will you please give instructions for making Lavatine work, in the columns of the BLADE?—R. L. D.

Will some one tell me how to get rid of canary lice? I have tried several ways but have failed—VIOLA.

Will some kind reader please send me a recipe through the BLADE for cream or red hot candy?—MRS. B. G.

Is there any reader of your valuable paper that knows of anything that will cure dizziness?—H. J. R.

Will you please ask some of your kind readers to send a description for knitting pine apple lace?—MRS. J. W. MILLER.

I would like to enquire of some kind reader for a remedy for a bad breath, and also a good cure for chilblains.—READER.

Will some one of the many readers of the HOUSEHOLD please give directions as plain as possible for making hair flowers—Mrs. M. A. HALL.

Will some one send a cure for diabetes, the kind the doctor book says is cureable? Also a cure for catarrh, something that has been tried—B.

I wish to know if there is a cure for contracted tendons or muscles. I noticed a question of this kind in the correspondent's column of the BLADE and would like to see it solved. Perhaps some friend to the cause of suffering humanity would respond.—C. W. SMITH.

I would like to ask the readers of the BLADE if they can tell me what to do for my hands; they usually get numb every night. Can feel it in my feet sometimes, but usually in my hands. They have been so for about a year. I have doctored for it but nothing seems to help me. Any remedy that will give relief will be thankfully received.—A FAITHFUL READER.

Can any of the many readers of the BLADE send me these songs One is "The Little Brown Church in the Dale, or Vale," and the first two lines of the other is:

I will tell you of a fellow,
He is neither white nor yellow,
But is altogether green.

or, please tell where I can get them?—LUELLA MUNGER.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

Thanks for the answers through the HOUSEHOLD to my inquiry about mullein. If any one wishing to write more about it would please address me, I would feel very thankful.—M. E. T., Box 72, Wright City, Warren Co., Mo.

Mrs. D. G. Smith can get the words of "I've two little hands to work for Jesus," in D. C. Cook's Primary Songs. Send 25c to his publishing house in Chicago, or $1, and get it and a dozen or so others on large charts that can be read anywhere in an ordinary Sunday-school room. I would like to get two or three dozen "Gospel Hymns Consolidated," second-hand copies, either with or without music, or some of both.—J. M. RICE, Conway, Kansas.

The person inquiring where to procure the number of the White Cross Library entitled "The Doctor Within," will get it by enclosing 10 cents to F. J. Needham, 22 Tremont Row, Boston, Mass.—ED.

"Care" asks for a list of good books for young men. I send these: "A Knight of the XIXth Century," "E. R. Rowe; "Smile;" "Self Helps;" "Uncle Tom's Cabin."—H. B. Stowe; Lives of Washington, Lincoln and Garfield, Wm. Thayer, Scott's Ivanhoe; Hoosier Schoolmaster—E. Eggleston.

Will some one who is posted tell how "dining table center mats" are used? Are they spread over the center of the table cloths or are they to be put on without a cloth and doyleys used to set the plates on at the edge of table? I would be glad to learn.—SALLIE B. GREEN.

Table mats are spread over the center of the table cloths. If they are in the form of a scarf they are placed lengthwise. An effort has been made to have handsome tables left bare with the exception of mats and doylies at luncheons, but the style is not at all popular.—ED.

"Gypsy," the lady always leads the way from one room into the other She may pause inside the door and both pass on side by side.

Several presents suitable for gentlemen have been given in our Fancy Work columns.—ED.

To Manson W. Rozell: A good paste can be made by boiling common starch as thick as for starching shirt fronts.

"E. D. S." asks for a remedy for habitual constipation. I would suggest cold water taken at any time, a little while before going to bed and in the morning before breakfast and occasionally during the day.—E. G. P.

The Puxico Sunday school of this place will gladly receive the papers spoken of by Pleasant Hill school of Uniontown, Pa. We have a large school but the people are very poor, and literature of any suitable kind will be gladly received. We will be pleased to pay postage on Sunday school papers, cards, magazines, or any periodical of a moral tone. You may be assured that they will be well disposed of, as we have a large number of scholars of all ages who are thirsting for reading matter of any class. In such cases the deadly time novel has a fearful opportunity. Send to me with amount of postage, or notify me of amount of postage required.—JAMES E. HARBIN, Librarian, Box 58, Puxico, Stoddard Co., Mo.

Having seen several requests for a recipe for mocking bird food in the columns of the BLADE, I will with pleasure send mine. Mix and grind in a coffee-mill equal parts of hemp and flax seed, add a little granulated sugar. They also like toasted broad crumbs in the food occasionally. We have three birds that we have raised that are doing nicely upon this food.—HERBERT H. BARTLETT, Tampa, Fla.

I found this in the BLADE last year, have tried it and find it just the thing to destroy cabbage worms. I did not put it on so strong, wiped the leaves on with a sponge wet with the brine. No other brine will do but mackerel.—MRS. C. HUKILL.

Take mackerel brine, mix two-thirds water and sprinkle as soon as the worms make their appearance. A lady in Ohio saved her cabbage eight years in succession with this. It has to be mackerel brine. Other salt fish brine will do no good.—MRS. M. MILLER, De Soto, Wash county, Neb.

RECIPES.

White-washing.—Put in salt and skim-milk.—MRS. M. A. LAUGHLIN.

A Good Sweet Cracker Recipe.—Two cupfuls of white sugar, 1 cupful of lard, 1 cupful of sweet milk, white of 6 eggs, 1 ounce of lump hartshorn dissolved in the milk.—RETTA.

Bread Griddle Cakes.—Soak a small bowl of bread over night in sweet milk. Mix ¼ cupful of flour with 1½ teaspoonfuls of baking powder, 1 quart of milk, 3 well beaten eggs, a little salt. Beat well together.—WATER LILY.

Put a wet strip of cloth around the edge of loaves of bread when they are ready to put into the oven and are so full you fear they might run over. When will raise up high and be as thick when cool as can be cut with the bread knife. Try it.

Light Tea Cake.—One cupful sugar, 2 eggs, half cupful melted butter, one and a quarter cupfuls of milk, two teaspoonfuls cream of tartar, one teaspoonful soda. Add flour enough to make a stiff batter. Bake twenty minutes in a good oven.—B. L. S.

Ginger Bread.—One qt. of molasses, ¼ lb. of butter or lard, ½ pt. thick milk, 1 oz. saleratus dissolved in milk, 1 tablespoonful of ginger, 1 tablespoonful of cinnamon, 1 teaspoonful of cloves, 3½ lbs. flour; roll ¼ inch thick; cut in squares; wash with milk and molasses; bake on tins.—MRS. M. WELCH.

Black Pudding:—1 cupful raisins, one and one-half cupfuls molasses, one cupful warm water, two and one-half cupsful flour, one dessert spoonful soda, yolks of two eggs, pinch of salt, steam two hours. Sauce—1 cupful sugar, ½ cupful butter, 1 teaspoonful warm water, whites of 2 eggs beaten stiff, put in last.—A "GLEN GIRL."

Fruit Loaf Cake.—One cupful of butter, 2 cupfuls of brown sugar, 1 cupful of New Orleans molasses, 1 cupful of sweet milk, 3 eggs, 5 cupfuls of sifted flour, 2 teaspoonfuls of creamtartar in the flour, 1 teaspoonful of soda, in the milk, 1 tablespoonful of cinnamon, 1 nutmeg, 1 lb. raisins, 1 lb. currants, ¼ lb. citron; less fruit will do, and citron may be omitted.—H. A. C.

Corn Cakes.—One cupful of sweet milk, 1 of sour milk; 2 cupfuls of meal, 1 cupful of flour, ½ cupful of sugar; add thereto, with 1 teaspoonful of butter, new, salt and soda of each, 1 level teaspoonful; mix up quickly and bake it soon. This cake will be neither sour nor bitter (a common fault) if no old milk is used. It is good for breakfast or dinner. With a bowl of milk, it is good for supper too.

Cabbage Slaw.—For "Subscriber's Wife" in BLADE November 10: Shave your cabbage quite fine, sprinkle with salt for 10 minutes before cooking. Put in a new basin or graniteware for 20 minutes over a hot fire, adding a little butter and sugar. When tender, sprinkle over a tablespoonful of dry flour, stirring it in with a small ¼ cupful of vinegar, cook 5 minutes more, and hot. Be careful to have the water cooked out before putting in the vinegar.

Apple Pudding.—Some one asks for a recipe for apple pudding. I send an English recipe that has been tried and found true. Fine chopped suet ¼ lb.; sifted flour 1 qt.; apples chopped fine, 1 qt.; make the flour and suit into a rather moist dough with sour milk; roll ¼ in. thick; put in the apples; spice, sugar, flavoring to suit taste; put in a bag and boil two hours. Eat with any sauce preferred.—NELL.

A Tried Remedy for Habitual Constipation.—For 20 years, I suffered with costiveness and blind piles, and knew of no remedy but drastic medicines. I am still subject to constipation, but have kept myself comfortable for the past 25 years by injections of warm water. If one is not enough, I would take a dozen. Any person can take an injection without any assistance, and with any kind of a syringe.—46 South Erie street, Toledo.

Sweet Potato Pudding:—1½ cupful of grated sweet potato, one quart of sweet milk, 1 cupful of sugar, a pinch of salt, cinnamon or lemon to flavor, 3 nice eggs, four eggs, save the whites of three for the frosting, a piece of butter cut into bits, but all together will make a very thick custard. After it is baked beat the white of eggs to a stiff froth, then add one-half cupful of sugar, and spread over the pudding return it to the oven to brown the frosting. Is very nice hot or cold.—MARGE.

Old-fashioned corn pone, such as our grandmothers used to make.—It is not likely that anyone has the Dutch oven to bake it in, and I don't think it can be baked so good in any other way, but will tell how it is made. If you want a large pone, say four quarts of meal, take two quarts and have just water enough in a dinner pot to scald it thoroughly, add salt, and cold water to cool, then add the remainder of the meal, have it as stiff as you can, stir it well; some like a handful of coarse flour; set in a warm place; it will get light in a few hours.—MRS. L. Y. H., Decatur, Ill.

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: "Of Ourselves We Will be Masters."

Pledge:

We do hereby promise ourselves that, from this time until we are 21 years old, we will not taste intoxicating liquors of any kind, and that we will exert all our influence to prevent their use by others. Witness our names:

CARLISLE, IND.	Luther W Chessman
John G Collins	Emma J Chessman
Frank Risinger	Maggie L Chessman
Fred McCormick	Eva Chessman
Frank Wilson	Clara S Chessman
Edward Unger	MELVILLE, ILL.
Lonnie Wilson	Nannie Adams
Vince Walker	Katie Howard
Roland Walker	Ettie Howard
Nora Deiss	Nelson Keidel
Nora Deiss	R H Riehl
Emma Walker	Amos Elliott
Ina Walker	F M Calame
Lily Deiss	Lott Smith
Frank Walker	Mary Calame
EARLHAM, IOWA.	KEARNEY, NEB.
Tommy Chessman	Lucy V Wilburn

Names this week, 30. Total 21,199.

The above embraces all names received up to December 15.

CHRISTMAS.

BY CARINE L. BOSE.

Hark! the gladsome Christmas music
Ringing, ringing in the air,
Hosts of nappy children's voices
Singing, singing everywhere;
Clear they raise
Joyful lays
Jesus' praise.

Lo! while infant lips are sending
Pleasure, pleasure through the earth,
Hosry heads in worship bending,
Treasure, treasure Jesus' birth,
That of old,
Angels told
To shepherd bold.

Angels sang Messiah's story,
Thrilling, thrilling all on high;
Sped the Eastern star of glory
Filling, filling earth and sky
With a light
Wondrous bright,
Rejoicing night.

Magi brought their mystic treasure,
Showing, showing Christ was born,
Mary knew a mother's pleasure;
Glowing, glowing Christmas morn!
Garlands bring,
Carols sing,
For Christ is King.

Meekly, cradled in a manger,
Sleeping, sleeping Jesus lay,
King of kings, yet homeless stranger,
Keeping, keeping Christmas Day.
Gladly tell,
"All is well
Emmanuel!"

—*Good Housekeeping.*

MATERNAL INSTINCT.

BY G. M. SNYDER.

I wonder what my papa means,
By calling me Miss Fidget?
A silly goose
That has no use—
A troublesome young midget.

He says I always "ought to laugh,
Good little girls are jolly."
What should he do
If he, you see
Had tored his little Dolly?

He says my Dolly's nothing but
A lot of rips and creases—
That all combined
Could never find
One half the missing pieces.

And mamma told me if it was
Made out of iron and leather
It wouldn't stay
More than a day
Securely held together.

I know its nose and ears are gone,
It has one leg left only;
A great big crack
Is in its back
And one eye looks so lonely.

Its face gets blacker every day,
It's never tidy, never;
And I'm sure
And scour and scrub
It makes it worse than ever.

They want to know what makes me keep
The "nasty thing" about me.
Why don't you see
It's fond of me,
And couldn't do without me?

Now, does it matter much to them
How sick and cross I may be?
I'm not afraid
Mamma would trade
Me for another baby. —*Courier-Journal.*

HOW A CAT SAVED A KNIGHT.

FRED MYRON COLBY.

A little more than four hundred years ago there was a bloody war in England. It was about the succession to the crown which was claimed by two rival families. England has had several of these wars, but this was the most terrible of all. As each family wore a rose for its distinctive badge, that of Lancaster a red and that of York a white rose, this struggle is known in history as the war of the Roses. It lasted over 30 years, and there was a great deal of fighting and bloodshed and many cruel things were done, so that, as one writer expresses it, the white roses became red roses at the last.

While the conflict was going on, it kept the country in a state of continual commotion. The peace and happiness of hundreds of families all over the land was destroyed, for some took side with one party, and others with the rival side. Murders and assassinations and imprisonments innumberable grew out of it. They were horrible times indeed.

Among the families which this war broke up was that of Sir Henry Wyatt, a brave knight of Kent, who girded on his sword and went to fight the Red Rose. His attachment to the house of Lancaster proved an unfortunate thing for the Kentish knight, for he was taken prisoner and clapped into a cold, damp dungeon, where he was kept "in irons and stocks" for upwards of two years, and where he like to have perished from cold and starvation.

Sir Henry was a fine and noble gentleman. Says his biographer, "There was no man more pitiful; no man more true to his work; no man facter to his friend, no more diligent nor more circumspect."

As I said, he was kept both cold and hungry, and he was so reduced that at one time he thought he should die.

But one day, when he was nearly perished, Sir Henry had a visitor. It was only a large black and white cat, that entered the prisoner's cell in a very friendly way. Sir Henry rubbed his thin, cold hands in pussy's warm fur and spoke kindly to her.

The cat lingered a long while as though fond of the petting. When at last it went away the knight was disconsolate, thinking probably he should never see it again, and fearing that he should perish there from want and starvation. The next day, however, pussy returned, and this time she brought a plump pigeon, which she laid at Sir Henry's feet, looking up to his face as much as to say, "See, I have brought you something to eat."

Of course pussy thought the pigeon was all ready for eating, but the knight could not, like a cat, eat the bird before it was cooked. Still he was thankful, and spoke kind words to her. After the cat was gone and the knight was left alone, he began to think how he should contrive to get the pigeon cooked. At last he hit on a plan.

When one of the keepers came to bring his daily allowance of food, he said: "This is not Christian to starve a man. Here isn't enough to keep life in a cat."

"I dare not better it," answered the man.

"Suppose now that I could furnish flesh, would you dress it for me?"

"Verios; anything that you can provide we will attend to and make it nourishment fit for Christians," replied the keeper.

"You swear to dress and cook any food I may procure, and bring the same to me!" said Sir Henry, determined to have a definite promise from the man.

"By the Holy Virgin, I swear it," he answered.

Probably he was surprised at the sight of the pigeon; but he must often afterwards have been more surprised. For pussy seemed to labor under the conviction that her friend did not have enough to eat, and often brought her game to his cell. The jailor, however, was coldly and wholly heartless, was true to his promise, and carefully prepared for the table what the cat brought.

This went on for several months, and the knight was saved from starvation; and a day came at last when the prison door was opened, and he came out free. He lived after this many years, holding great state at his castle of Allington in Kent, and became one of the favorite kights of King Henry VII, who conferred on him many important offices. But amid all his wealth and grandeur, he never forgot the four-footed creature that fed and nourished him when he was a starving prisoner, and he always kept a large number of cats around him, and had a certain sum laid aside every year for their support.

There are several portraits of Sir Henry Wyatt preserved in various places, and they all represent him with a cat sitting beside him. And I suppose it was on account of this adventure and in remembrance of his almost miraculous preservation that the good knight had his picture thus taken.—*Portland Transcript.*

THE FIRST CHISTMAS-TREE IN NEW ENGLAND.

BY SARAH J. PRITCHARD.

As soon as Mrs. Olcott was well rid of Mrs. Hawley, she called her boys, and bade them go to the pine-woods and get the finest, handsomest young hemlock-tree that they could find.

"Get one that is straight and tall, with well-boughed branches on it, and put it where you can draw it under the wood-shed after dark," she added.

The boys went to Pine Hill, and there they picked out the finest young tree on all the hill, and said, "We will take this one." So, with their hatchets they hewed it down and brought it safely home the next night when all was dark. And when Roger was quietly sleeping in the adjoining room they dragged the tree into the kitchen. It was too tall, so they took it out again and cut off two or three feet at the base. Then they propped it up, and the curtains being down over the windows, and blankets being fastened over the curtains to prevent any one looking in, and the door being doubly barred to prevent any one coming in, they all went to bed.

Very early the next morning, while the stars shone on the snow-covered hills,—the same stars that shone sixteen hundred years before on the hills when Christ was born in Bethlehem,—the little Puritan mother in New England arose very softly. She went out and lit the kitchen fire anew from the ash-covered embers. She fastened upon the twigs of the tree the gifts she had bought in Boston for her boys and girl. Then she took as many as twenty pieces of candle and fixed them upon the branches. After that she softly called Rupert, Robert and Lucy, and told them to get up and dress and come into the kitchen.

Hurrying back, she began, with a bit of burning stick, to light the candles. Just as the last one was set aflame, in trooped the three children.

Before they had time to say a word, they were silenced by their mother's warning.

"I wish to fetch Roger in and wake him up before it, she said. "Keep still until I come back."

The little lad, fast asleep, was lifted in a blanket and gently carried by his mother into the beautiful presence.

"See, Roger, my boy, see!" she said, arousing him. "It is Christmas morning now! In England they only have Christmas-boughs, but here in New England we have a whole Christmas-tree."

"Oh, mother!" he cried. "Oh, Lucy! Is it really, really true, and no dream at all? Yes, I see! I see! Oh, mother! it is so beautiful! Were all the trees on the hills lighted up that way when Christ was born? And, mother," he added, clapping his little hands in joy at the thought, "why yes, the stars did sing when Christ was born! They must be glad, then, and keep Christmas, too, in Heaven. I know they must, and there will be good times there."

"Yes," said his mother; "there will be good times there, Roger."

"Then," said the boy, "I shan't mind going, now that I've

The Farm.

About Cream and Why?

The matter of handling cream for fine butter-making is always a fresh (!) question for discussion, and is one that has not a little to do with the fine quality of butter, for let the milk be as good as may be, the setting apparatus perfect, and unless the the cream is properly handled we fail in getting desirable flavor and "grain" in butter, make it by any system we may. With the cream collected for churning a most radical change is being made in its treatment. The same kind of science that told us that it was the acid in cheese that curdled it has told us that it was souring cream before churning that gave it keeping qualities and flavor in finished butter, when neither rest on substantial grounds. Keeping qualities in butter rest wholly upon making an articles with unbroken globules, and perfectly free from buttermilk, sugar, albumen and other substances not butter, but found in it. The observing butter-maker has come to know that flavor in butter is neither salt, buttermilk, or lactic acid, although by habit and long usuage we may learn to like it, just as some people learn to enjoy tobacco and tomatoes. To get pure butter flavor we need to bring the agency of the air into use, and by bringing both in contact with the cream, ripen it, and mould and strengthen the natural flavor of the butter fats before they are acted upon by the lactic acid souring, which is the breaking up of natural elements preparatory to decomposition, and decay. Cream made slightly acid by keeping it warm, and frequent stirring to admit the air, is as different from the acid of long kept cream as the whey kept warm and receiving its acid from the air is different from curd that has been allowed to sour in the whey. In the first place it is not true that the longest keeping and best butter is made from sour cream: but it is true in commou praetice that most persons succeed best with sour or sourish cream. It may not be without interest to say a few words here on this mooted question. The whole matter is in this: Sweet or ripened cream butter is not, as a rule, churned as well as sour cream. The former does not churn as easy, and the operator churns through mistake at the sout cream temperature. Now the less the degree of acidity, temperature being equal, the more adhesive will be the cream in the churn to the butter globules. When we churn too warm for the condition of the cream, the larger globules must begin to collect the first, and enclose too much buttermilk in the masses. If churned at the proper temperature all the butter comes at the same time and the smallest globules are saved, which is the only way by which we can account for the small butter product by very warm cream.

To the average butter-maker souring cream gives it more equal condition. When cream of different ages is mixed, when pans of cream of different ages are put into the churn at the same time to be immediately churned, the oldest cream will first come and the liability is to lose a part of the latter. In farm dairies it is often impossible to get cream enough of one age to make a churning, while in the creamery uniform methods and large quantities of cream daily give them an advantage in governing this ripening point in cream. But if the cream of a dairy is kept cool as possible until enough is obtained for a churning, not to exceed three days, and then warmed as required and kept warm and properly stirred to get the air at it, it will hasten its ripening and give uniform condition, and one gets the flavor and, if well washed with weak brine, desirable keeping qualities. Cream obtained by a cold setting ripens fast in a temperature of 60 degrees, and one is likely to get the cream sooner than is needed. The only way is to have a regular rule and method in the matter, and remember, in butter-making, never put off till to-morrow what should be done to-day.—*J. Gould in Farmers' Review.*

Care of Frozen Plants.

When by any mishap the plants, whether in parlor or greenhouse, become frozen, either at once remove them (taking care not to touch the leaves)to some place warm enough to be just above the point of freezing; or, if there are too many to do that, get up the fire as rapidly as possible, and raise the temperature. The usual advice is to sprinkle the leaves and shade the plants from the sun. We have never found either remedy of any avail with frozen plants, and the sprinkling is often a serious injury if done before the temperature is above the freezing point. In our experience with thousands of frozen plants, we have tried all manner of expedients, and found no better method than to get them out of the freezing atmosphere as quickly as possible, and we have also found that the damage is in proportion to the succulent condition of the plant and the intensinity of the freezing. Just what degree of cold plants in any given condition can endure without injury, we are unable to state. Plants are often frozen so that the leaves hang down, but when thawed out are found to be not at all injured. At another time the same low temperature acting on the same kind of plants may kill them outright if they happen to be growing more thriftily, and are full of sap. Much depends on the temperature at which plants are have been accustomed. When the frost is penetrating into a greenhouse or room in which plants are kept, and the heating arrangements are inadequate to keep it out, the best thing to do is to cover the plants with paper (newspapers or sheeting. Thus protected, most plants will be enabled to resist four or five degrees of frost. Paper is rather better than cheesing for this purpose.—*American Agriculturist.*

Information Wanted.

R. C. W., Fayettville, Tenn: Would like some of the readers of the BLADE FARM to give their opinion as to which are the better, straight or crooked teeth for threshing, and which kind of belts, leather or rubber is most serviceable.

M. D. F.:—Your heifer that has a calf, and gives bloody milk, has garget. Mix up half a pound of salts with a cupful of molasses, and a full teaspoonful of ginger. Stir this in a quart of water and give it to her while it is warm. Apply this to the udder with gentle sriction: Powdered campbor, half an ounce; extract of belladonna, half an ounce; water, one ounce. Give only a moderate quantity of water, and put an ounce of saltpetre in the drinking water morning and evening. The milk must be drawn frequently.

J. B. L., Kansas: There is nothing unusual about the swelling of a mare's leg previous to foaling. We would advise you to give no medicine. Give her a bran mash every other day for two weeks in which there is stirred a teaspoonful of saleratus. Also, put some pine tar in the bottom of her drinking pail, and fill with water from time, say for a week, twice a day, and it will, we think, relieve the cough. Groom her well, and give gentle exercise daily. Examine her teeth carefully and see whether they are all sound or uneven.

W. G.:—We do not give solutions to arithmetical problems in the BLADE FARM as a rule, but as a good rule for measuring corn in the crib comes handy to farmers at times, we give you one: Two cubic feet of sound, dry corn in the ear will make a bushel shelled. To get the quantity of shelled corn in a crib of corn in the ear, measure the length, breadth and height of the crib inside of the rail. Multiply the length by the breadth, and the breadth by the height; then divide by two, and you have the number of bushels in the crib. This rule will apply to a crib of any kind.

T. F. W., Missouri: A "spain of the fetlock joint of a horse is, if a bad one, not relieved readily. It takes time, and care. To treat, wrap well with flannels well soaked in spirits of campher, one ounce; vinegar, four ounces, water one pint. Repeat until inflamation is removed, then take of iodine, half an ounce; glycerine, two ounces; mercurial ointment, two ounces; olive oil six ounces. Mix and rub a little on the part affected. Use until the irritation is well marked. Be careful not to give the animal violent exercise, as the process of growing strength may be slow.

T. R., Missouri: We think your steer is affected with psoriasis. There is, no doubt, considerable fever in the leg, and the first thing to be done will be to poultice the foot with hot linseed meal poultices (bran will do, but not so well) until all the inflammation is out then wash the sore with soap and warm water, and then apply this: Powdered cha.k, four ounces; charcoal, one ounce; alum, half an ounce; sulphate of zinc, half an ounce. Mix thoroughly and sprinkle on the ulcers. Examine his foot and see if there is anything like soreness in the cleft. If so, clean out well and sprinkle some of the above in it.

T. P. R., Dakota.—The process of dehorning cattle and calves has been given several times in the BLADE FARM. There was a communication last week on dehorning cattle. The main idea is to put the animal in a stanchion and saw the horns off close to the head with a sharp saw. They may be operated on in winter time. We do not understand your question regarding lumpy jaw. If you mean the big head, it is an affection of the bones and is more prevalent in the South than elsewhere. It is due mainly to feeding too much cornfodder or other food not in good condition. Certain kinds of water superinduce it. Once in a while a case may be cured in its first stages by applying a strong liniment and holding a hot iron near the part to dry it in. A veterinary should be called in such cases. It is not a contagious disease.

W. T. R., Illinois:—You ask, "What is your opinion of the English sparrow?" We gave our opinion of him some time since. We agree with the communication in last week's BLADE Farm. The sparrow should be exterminated, or it will do a vast amount of mischief. Last winter the little rascals destroyed the buds on our plum trees. They have soiled our house. They have destroyed considerable wheat near this city. They do not destroy insects, drive our song birds away, chatter worse than monkeys, are on the road to destroy farmers' crops, and are very bad generally. They should be trapped and killed by every device known to man.

E. O. C., Ohio: Swelling of the legs may arise from an affection of the heart or liver, impoverished blood, etc. When not accompanied by inflammation, the dropsical condition is brought on by the veins and their radicals being unable to empty themselves into their proper cavities, when the blood they hold distends their walls, while the more watery portion of the blood filters through into the surrounding space or spaces. The swelling of the legs in your animal is, no doubt, the outcrop of the early inflammation and rheumatism, the effects of which yet linger to a certain extent. As the animal is young, we would not advise much medicine, as she may gradually grow one of the trouble. Give gentle exercise, good grooming, good hay and oats, with a light diuretic as follows: One-fourth ounce powdered nitre in the drinking water once every other day for a week, omit for a week and repeat for a week. We take it that the legs are not badly "filled," and caution should be taken.

Mr. M. Whitman, Kansas, who omitted to give the place of his residence, has a horse whose legs swell as far up as the hock joint. This disease is "filled legs," which results from several causes. To reduce these dropsical swellings make up this: Venice turpentine, 3 ozs.; oil of juniper, 2 drs.; powdered resin, 9 ozs.; nitre, 6 ozs.; hard, dried soap, 6 ozs. Melt the rosin, soap and turpentine together, and when cooling, stir in the juniper and nitre. For 24 boluses; one or two for a dose. Also, take of citrate of iron and ammonia, and dissolve half a drachm in the drinking water, or sprinkle on the oats three times a day for a week. Mr. W. also wishes to know of some of the farmers where the Red Brazilian artichoke may be had. He also says: "While I have my pen in hand, I wish to say a word about dehorning cattle, which I read so much about some time ago. I think it not only painful to the cattle, but injurious. The best time, in my opinion, to do this work, is when the calf is only a week or so old, by cutting out the curl where the horn starts."—[Mr. Whitman's opinion is correct.—ED.]

C. W. F., Kansas: We have seen it claimed that stock do as well without salt as with it, but we have no such opinion. Nature itself teaches animals to lick salt. Animals require more or less salt, although it may be fed in too large quantity. It is a good thing to have a piece of rock salt in the horse's feed trough for him to lick. Too much is not taken. Milch cows must have salt, if a full flow of milk is expected. It is an important element of the blood, and furnishes the soda necessary to hold the cheesy part of the milk in solution. In spring time, when there is a deficiency of saline matter in the food, salt should be given. As grass matures, there is not so much incitination on the part of the animals for salt." It has been shown that in May or June, where cows have been deprived of salt for several days, the milk shrunk from one to two per cent in quantity, and from one to four per cent in quality. The quantity is better regulated by the animal than by man, as he cannot judge so accurately the amount needed. Cattle gnaw nails and old boards when their blood is not in proper condition, and when they are suffering from debilitated stomachs. A dose of salts, followed by a tonic, will result in the stoppage of the habit.

H. C. W., Kansas: You must take some different way than now, if you expect to keep your aged horses from having staring coats. You are giving too much of the condition powders. It may take some time to overcome the effects of the mischief done by the powders in the dyspeptic condition in which your animals were at the time you began to give the powders. A very little of the condition powders would have been beneficial. There are many horses ruined yearly by overfeeding with condition powders. The first thing for you to do will be to examine the teeth of your horses carefully, and remove anything that irritates. The molar teeth may be sharp on one side and worn off on the other. If the teeth are found sharp, the horse is incapable of proper mastication, and can make give but little whole corn. They must have their food at regular intervals. Long fasting and too heavy feeding results in dyspepsia. The horses must be kept in comfortable stalls, where they will not be subject to a direct draft of air. Give each animal a drench, manely: Powdered gentian, three drachms; bicarbonate of soda, half an ounce, in a pint of warm water. After this has operated, take of bicarbonate of soda, six ounces; Fowler's solution of arsenic, four drachms. Rub these well together in a mortar, and divide into 24 powders, of which give one before meals three times a day, either in the drinking water, or made into a drench with water, to each animal.

Interesting Facts.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—To prevent calves from becoming lousy, take the oats they leave in their trough and rub them on their backs.

If a mouse gets into your living room, or any room in the house, lay a boot on the floor close to the wall, drive him around, and he will surely run into it. Gather up the top of the boot leg, invert it over a bed of coals and drop him in. His ashes are worth more than his company.

Hams are best exploded by filling them full to the burner. Then turn down a blazing wick, and in ten minutes you have an explosion.

The farmer that hasn't a common school education took the wrong course at the school house.

Wire fences should be protected from lightning by fitting to them every 20 rods a large wire, put deep in the ground; otherwise stock laying or standing by the fence may get killed.

I started these items, hoping to draw out others. This is the third effort and if this fails to draw I am done.—E. REYNOLDS, Metomar, Wis.

[Mr. Reynolds has done well. If farmers generally would take the interest in writing for the paper that he has, the BLADE FARM would be better than $2.3 worth of books on farm subjects during the year to farmers. Let us hear from you, farmers You can say something of interest.—ED.

Farm Notes.

Unless some attention is paid to it in the fall, there will be much less manuure in the spring than there might be, and at best on most farms there is not enough. The systematic saving of manure through the winter, even from a small amount of stock, is a great help.

The great dominant and distinguishing property of the Guernsey cow is her production of butter. Her milk is characterized by a deep rich color, which imparts to the butter that golden hue so much prized. It is this quality which makes her breed valuable to introduce into a herd for the purpose of improving the color of the butter.

Few farmers give that attention to their horses' feet that they should give. Most men rub and curry well enough, perhaps, and many take great pride and plenty of time in smoothing the horse's hide; but seldom is it that they think of that most indispensable part, the horse's feet, and stop to give them that little attention and inspection that is almost daily necessary.

There may be some old building standing about your premises, or a corner in your barn or some out-house, which could be fixed up without much trouble or expense to answer the purpose of an ice-house, if you have not such a convenience already upon your farm. Those who have tried it only know what a comfort and convenience a good supply of ice is during the hot months of summer.

The shortage in the feed for this winter may be somewhat atoned for by providing good, comfortable quarters for the stock. If you have not the corn to keep up the animal heat, or even if you have, keep it up by protecting your stock from the piercing winds. It requires more feed when the weather is cold so keep stock in good condition—some claim 50 per cent more. This increase in rations may be kept down by shelter and protection.

Winter Wheat.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—The winter wheat summary of the *Farmer's Review* says: Late reports from the winter wheat states of the central West present the condition of the crop as compared with the average at this time of the year. They give the following figures by states: Ohio—22 counties, 87.2 per cent; Indiana—23 counties, 89.5 per cent; Missouri—24 counties, 86 per cent.; Kansas—25 counties, 110 per cent.; Michigan—16 counties, 95.6 per cent.; Kentucky —6 counties, 85 per cent.

"Taking the five great winter wheat states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Kansas they show an average of 91 per cent.

DR. TALMAGE ON "RECREATIONS."

Some of the Amusements Which He Commends—The Pleasures at Home—The Charms of Music—Satisfaction in Doing Good—Preparing for Eternity.

BROOKLYN, Dec. 18.—At the Tabernacle this morning the whole congregation sang the hymn beginning:

"The hill of Zion yields
A thousand sacred sweets,
Before we reach the heavenly fields
Or walk the golden streets."

The Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, D. D., preached on "Recreations Good and Bad," taking two texts: 1 Corinthians, vii. 31, "They that use this world, as not abusing it;" and Judges xvi 25, "And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house, and he made them sport." Dr. Talmage said:

We are entering the gayest season of the year. The winter opens before us the gates of a thousand amusements, some of them good and some bad. One of my texts will show you that amusements may be destructive, my other text will show you that amusements may be under the Divine blessing and direction

There were three thousand people assembled in the temple of Dagon. They had come to make sport of eyeless Samson. They were all ready for the entertainment. They began to clap and pound, impatient for the amusement to begin, and they cried: "Fetch him out! fetch him out!" Yonder I see the blind old giant coming, led by the hand of a child into the very midst of the temple. At his first appearance there goes up a shout of laughter and derision. The blind old giant pretends he is tired, and wants to rest himself against the pillars of the house; so he says to the lad who leads him: "Show me where the main pillars are." The lad does so. Then the strong man puts his right hand on one of the pillars and his left hand on another pillar, and, with the mightiest push that mortal ever made, throws himself forward until the whole house comes down in thunderous crash, grinding the audience like grapes in a wine-press. "And so it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, 'Call for Samson, that he may make us sport.' And they called for Samson out of the prison-house; and he made them sport."

In other words: There are amusements that are destructive, and bring down disaster and death upon the heads of those who practice them. While they laugh and cheer they die. The three thousand who perished that day at Gaza are as nothing compared with the tens of thousands who have been destroyed by sinful amusements.

But the other text I have read implies that there is a lawful use of the world as well as an unlawful abuse of it, and the difference between the man Christian and the man un-Christian is, that in the former case the man masters the world, in the latter case the world masters him. For whom did God make this grand and beautiful world? For whom this wonderful expenditure of color, this gracefulness of line, this mosaic of the ground, this fresco of the sky, this glowing fruitage of orchard and vineyard, this full orchestra of the tempest, in which the tree branches flute, and the winds trumpet, and the thunders drum, and all the spouting waters grind from cavern to cavern their cymbals? For whom did God spring the arched bridge of colors resting upon buttresses of broken storm cloud? For whom did he gather the upholstery of fire around the window of the setting sun? For all men; but more especially for his own dear children.

If you built a large mansion and spread a great feast after it to celebrate the completion of the structure, do you allow strangers to come in and occupy the place while you thrust your own children in the kitchen or the barn or the fields? Oh, no. You say, "I am very glad to see strangers in my mansion, but my own sons and daughters shall have the first right there." Now God has built this grand mansion of a world, and he has spread a glorious feast in it; and while those who are strangers to his grace may come in, I think that God especially intends to give the advantage to his own children, those who are the sons and the daughters of the Lord Almighty, those who through grace can look up and say, "Abba, Father." You can not make me believe that God gives more advantage to the world than he gives to the church bought by his own blood. If, therefore, people of the world have looked with dolorous sympathy upon those who make profession of religion, and have said, "These people convert us into a long drawn out privation and into hardship. Why did not they tarry a little longer in the world, and have some of the enjoyments and amusements and recreations?" I say to such men of the world, "You are greatly mistaken," and before I get through I will show that those people who stay out of the kingdom of God lose the hardships and self-denials, while those who come in have the joys and the satisfactions.

This morning, in the name of the King of heaven and earth, I serve a writ of ejectment upon all the sinful and polluted who have squatted on the domain of earthly pleasure as though it belonged to them, while I claim, in fact and of right, the whole of it for me and the true, the eternal inheritance which God has given them.

Hitherto, Christian philanthropists, clerical and lay, have busied themselves chiefly in denouncing sinful recreations, but I feel we have no right to stand before men and women in whose hearts there is a desire for recreation amounting to positive necessity, denouncing this and that and the other thing, when we do not propose to give them something better. God heeping me this morning, and with reference to my last account, I shall enter upon a sphere not usual in sermonizing, but a subject which I think ought to be presented at this time. I propose now to place before you some of the true recreations which are not only innocent, but positively helpfdl and advantageous.

In the first place, I commend, among indoor recreations, music, vocal and instrumental Among the first things created was the bird, so that the earth might have music at the start. This world, which began with so sweet a serenade, is finally to be demolished amidst the ringing blast of the archangel's trumpet, so that as there was music at the start, there shall be music at the close While this heavenly art has often been dragged into the uses of superstition and dissipation, we all know it may be the means of nigh moral culture. Oh, it is a grand thing to have our children brought up amidst the sound of cultured voices and amidst the melody of musical instruments. There is in this art an indescribable fascintion for the household. Let all those families who have the means to afford it, have flute or harp, or piano or organ. As soon as the hand is large enough to compass the keys, teach it how to pick out the melody. Let all young men try this heavenly art upon their nature. Those who have gone into it fully have found it a thrilling recreation and amusement. Dark days, stormy nights, seasons of sickness, business disasters, will do little toward depressing the soul which can gallop off over musical keys or soar in jubilant lay. It will cure pain. It will rest fatigue. It will quell passion. It will revive health. It will reclaim dissipation. It will strengthen the immortal soul. In the battle of Waterloo Wellington saw that the Highlanders were falling back. He said: "What is the matter there?" He was told that the band of music had ceased playing, and he called up the pipers and ordered them to strike up an inspiring air, and no sooner did they strike the air than the Highlanders were rallied and helped to win the day. Oh, ye who have been routed in the conflicts of life, try by the force of music to rally your scattered battallions.

I am glad to know that in our great cities there is hardly a night in which there are not concerts, where with the best musical instruments and the sweetest voices, people may find entertainment. Patronize such entertainments when they are afforded you. Buy season tickets, if you can, for the "Philharmonic" and the "Handel and Haydn" societies. Feel that the dollar and a half or the two dollars that you spend for the purpose of hearing an artist play or sing is a profitable investment. Let your Steinway Halls and your Academies of Music roar with the acclamation of appreciative audiences assembled at the concert or the oratorio.

Still further: I commend, as worthy of their support, the gymnasium. This institution is gaining in favor every year, and I know of nothing more free from dissipation, or more calculated to recuperate the physical and mental energies, while there are a good many people who have employed this institution, there is a vast number who are ignorant of its excellence. There are men with cramped chests and weak sides and despondent spirits, who through the gymnesium might be roused up to exuberance and exhileration of life. There are many Christian people despondent from year to year, who might, through such an institution, be benefitted in their spiritual relations. There are Christian people who seem to think it is a good sign to be poorly, and because Richard Baxter and Robert Hall were invalids, they think that by the same sickliness that man come to the same grandeur of character.

I want to tell the Christian people of my congregation that God will hold you responsible for your invalidism if it is your fault, and when through right exercise and prudence you might be athletic and well. The effects of the body upon the soul you acknowledge. Put a man of mild disposition upon the animal diet of which the Indian partakes, and in a little while the blood will change its chemical proportions. It will become like unto the blood of the lion or the tiger, or the bear, while the disposition will change, and become fierce, cruel, and unrelenting. The body has a powerful effect upon the soul.

There are good people whose ideas of heaven are all shut out with clouds of tobacco smoke. There are people who desire to shatter the physical vase in which God has put the jewel of eternity. There are men with great hearts and intellects in bodies worn out by their own neglects—magnificent machinery capable of propelling a Great Eastern across the Atlantic, yet fastened in a rickety North River propeller. Martin Luther was mighty for God, first, because he had a noble soul, and, secondly, because he had a muscular development which would have enabled him to thrash any five of his persecutors, if it had been Christian so to do. Physical development which merely shows itself in fabulous lifting, or in perilous rope-walking, or in pugilistic encounter, excites only our contempt; but we confess a great admiration for the man who has a great soul in an athletic body, every nerve, muscle, and bone of which is consecrated to right uses.

Oh, it seems to me outrageous that men, through neglect, should allow their physical health to go down beyond repair. A ship which ought, with all sail set and every man at his post, to be carrying a rich cargo for eternity, employing all its men in stopping up leakages! When you may, through the gymnasium, work off your spleen and your querulousness and one-half of your physical and mental ailments, do not turn your back upon such a grand medicament.

Still further: I recommend to you a large class of parlor games and recreations. There is a way of making our homes a hundred folds more attractive than they are now. Those parents can not expect to keep their children away from outside dissipations unless they make the domestic circle brighter than anything they can find outside of it. Do not, then, sit in yon home surly and unsympathetic, and with a half condemnatory look because of the sportfulness of your children. You were young once yourself; let your children be young. Because your eyes are dim and your ankles are stiff, do not denounce sportfulness in those upon whose eyes there is the first luster, and in whose foot there is the bounding joy of robust health. I thank God that in our drawing-rooms and in our parlors there are innumerable games and sports which have not upon them the least taint of iniquity. Light up all your homes with innocent hilarities. Do not sit down with the rheumatism, wondering how children can go on so. Rather thank God that their hearts are so light, and their laughter is so free, and that their cheeks are so ruddy, and that their expectations are so radiant. The night will come soon enough, and the heartbreak, and the pang, and the desolation—let it not come by your own fault to the dear children. But when the storm actually clouds the sky, it will be time enough for you to haul out your reef tackles. Carry, then, into your homes not only the innocent sports and games which are the inventions of our own day, but the games which come down with the sportfulness of all past generations, the old charades, and tableaux and battledore, and calisthenics and lawn tennis, and all those amusements which the young people of our homes know so well how to contrive. Then there will be the parlor socialities—groups of people assembled in your homes, with wit and mimicry and joviality, filling the room with joy from floor to floor the music and from pile carpet to the ceiling. Oh, is there any exhilration like a score of genial souls in one room, each one adding a contributionof his own individual merriment to the aggrigation of general hilarity?

Suppose you want to go abroad in the city, then you will find the panorama and the art gallery, and exquisite collections of pictures. You will find the Metropolitan Museum and the Historical Society rooms full of rare curiosities, and scores of places which can stand plainly the test of what is right and wrong in amusements. You will find the lecturing hall, which has been honored by the names of Agassiz in natural history, Dewey in chemistry, Astronomer Mitchell in astronomy, John B. Gough in moral reform, and scores and hundreds of men who have poured their wit and genius and ingenuity through that particular channel upon the hearts and consciences and imaginations of men, setting this country fifty years further in advance than it would have been without public platform.

I rejoice in the popularization of outdoor sports. I hail the croquet ground and the fisherman's rod and the sportsman's gun. In our cities life is so unhealthy and unnatural that when the census-taker represents a city as having 400,000 inhabitants he says there are really 300,000, since it takes at least two men to amount to one man, so depleting and unnerving and exhausting is this metropolitan life. We want more fresh air, more sunlight, more of the abandon field of sports. I cry out for it in behalf of the church of God as well as in behalf of secular interests. In behalf of this whole country, and the air and the clear sky and the sunshine and our rivers and our capitoline and grounds might be all aquake with the heel and the shout of the swift shaker. I wish that when the warm weather comes the graceful oar might dip the stream, and the evening tide be resonant with boatman's song, the bright prow spliting the crystalline flow. We shall have the smooth and grassy lawn, and we will call out people of all occupations and professions, and ask them to join in the ball player's sport. You will come back from these outdoor exercises and recreations with strength in your arm and color in your cheek, and a flash in your eye, and honor and success in this great battle that is opening against the kingdom of darkness we want not only a consecrated soul, but a strong arm and stout lungs and mighty muscle. I bless God that there are so many recreations that have not on them any taint of iniquity; recreations in which we may engage for the strengthening of our physical, the clearing of the intellect, for the illumination of the soul.

There is still another form of recreation which I commend to you, and that is the pleasure of doing good. I have seen young men, weak and cross and sour and repelling in their disposition, who by one heavenly touch have wakened up and become blessed and buoyant, the ground under their feet and the sky over their heads breaking forth into music. "Oh," says some young man in the house to-day, "I should like that recreation above all others, but I have not the means." My dear brother, let us take an account of stock this morning. You have a large estate, if you only realize it. Two hands. Two feet. You will have, perhaps, during the next year at least ten dollars for charitable contributions. You will have one hundred cheerful looks if you want to employ them. You will have five thousand pleasant words, if you want to speak them. Now what an amount that is to start with!

You go out to-morrow morning and you see a case of real destitution by the wayside. You give him two cents. The sad man takes the penniless cattle in his hand and says, "Thank you, sir; God bless you." You pass down the street trying to look indifferent, but you feel from the very depth of your soul a profound satisfaction that you made that man happy. You go on still farther and find a poor boy with a wheelbarrow trying to get it up on a curb-stone. He fails in the attempt. You say, "Stand back, my lad; let me try." You push it up on the curbstone for him, and pass on. He wonders who that well-dressed man was that helped him. You did a kindness to the boy, but you did a great joy to your own soul. You will not get over it all the week.

On the street, to-morrow morning, you will see a sick man passing along. "Ah," you say, "what can I do to make this man happy? He certainly does not want money; he is not poor, but he is sick." Give him one of those twenty-five hundred cheerful looks that you have garnered up for the whole year. Look joy and hopefulness into his soul. It will thrill him through, and there will be a reaction upon your own soul. Going a little farther on, you will come to the store of a friend who is embarrassed in business matters. You will go in and say, "What a fine store you have! I think business will brighten up, and you will have more custom after a while. I think there is coming a great prosperity to all the country. Good morning." You pass out.

You have helped that young man, and you have helped yourself. And that night you go home; you sit by the fire, you talk a little, you sing a little, you laugh a little; you say, "I really don't know what is the matter with me. I never felt so splendidly in my life." I will tell what is the matter with you. You spoke only one cheerful word on the $10; you have contributed one out of twenty-five hundred cheerful looks; you have given ten fifteen or twenty of the five thousand pleasant words you are going to speak during the year; you have with your own hands helped the boy with the wheelbarrow, and you feel in your body, mind and soul the [illegible] that [illegible] and you [illegible] was [illegible] and [illegible]

COUNT YOUR CASH.

Two Dollar Silver Certificates Raised to Fives—Many in Circulation—How It was Done.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The officials of the United States sub-treasury in this city were thrown into a state of consternation this morning by the appearance in large numbers of two-dollar silver certificates which had been altered to fives. Detectives in the employ of the government were immediately notified and other steps taken to ascertain the source of supply. It was thought by some of the experts that the altered certificates were more dangerous than if bolly executed, as they resembled genuine bills more nearly. One of the officials said:

"These twos altered to fives seem to have been suddenly put into pretty general circulation. They are being offered at merchant's counters, at banks and in many other branches of trade. It is charitable to presume that the many people who have tendered them in payment for goods are innocent of blame, they having received them from third parties."

There are several ways in which the alterations are made. The method most frequently used is to take the genuine two-dollar certificate and disguise it by means of bleaching acids and pigments. The portrait of General Hancock, on the left-hand upper corner in the original, has a mustache but no full beard. The rascals erase a portion of the mustache and put on a beard which covers the whole chin and extends well up at the sides of the face. The hair on the head is rearranged and the expression of the features is changed. General Hancock himself were living he would hardly recognize his own face in the doctored portrait. Who the counterfeiters intended to make the picture represent is a mystery, as no such caricature appears upon the genuine five-dollar certificate.

Next, every place where the word "two" or the figure "2" appears a careful erasure is made, and "five" or "5" printed in with a stamp. Numbers in red are also stamped upon the face of the certificate. The erasures and printing are so skillfully done that people who are not professional cashiers or large handlers of money are easily deceived.

Another variety of the altered certificate, large numbers of which are in the hands of the sub treasury officials and bank cashiers, is less elaborate but dangerous in its character. In this variety General Hancock's face is tampered with, the mustache and hair on the crown being changed, but no attempt is made to adorn the General with a full beard. One of the treasury expert from whom the reporter was obtaining the information added:

"These altered certificates are not valueless. They are still good for two dollars, and people can have them redeemed by bringing them here."

ESCAPING TORTURE.

Sailors Jump from the English Ship Triumph and Swim Ashore.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17.—[Special wire.] Several days ago a sailor who was imprisoned on the English flagship Triumph, lying in San Francisco bay, jumped through a port-hole and swam ashore, a distance of several miles. He was pursued, but a strong gale which was blowing at the time, and rapidly coming on, rendered the launches, the wharves, where he would have perished, but for a watchman, who dragged him to land.

His example has caused several other sailors on the Triumph to make the attempt. Henry Ryder and John Stanley, two of the crew, have performed the feat of jumping from the Triumph with $10 in their clothes.

They swam against the outgoing tide for four hours, and were found unconscious but struggling on the surface of the water by fishermen four miles down the bay from the Triumph's anchorage.

When able to walk they made their way to a sailor's boarding house, and will be shipped on a merchant vessel, sailors being in great demand here.

FOR ANNEXATION.

Halifax Papers Engage in a War of Words Concerning the Future of Canada.

HALIFAX, Dec. 16.—The St. John *Globe's* open advocacy of immediate annexation of Canada to the United States, as the speediest and best way to settle all difficulties between Great Britain and the great Republic, has produced a great sensation in political circles in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

The *Globe* is owned and edited by John Ellis, a member of the Canadian parliament for St. John county and for many years its representative in the New Brunswick legislature, and one of the recognized and ablest leaders of the Liberal party in Eastern Canada.

After advocating annexation as the most practical solution of the whole question, commenting on the *Globe* article, the *Telegraph*, also a Liberal organ, under the head, "The *Globe* throws off the mask," says:

"It is always best that the real sentiments of public men should be known, and so far the public is a gainer by the *Globe's* open confession. If Mr. Ellis were now to resign and put the sentiments of the St. John *Globe* to test, and could show that St.

What is Scrofula

It is that impurity in the blood, which, accumulating in the glands of the neck, produces unsightly lumps or swellings; which causes painful running sores on the arms, legs, or feet; which develops ulcers in the eyes, ears, or nose, often causing blindness or deafness; which is the origin of pimples, cancerous growths, or many other manifestations usually ascribed to "humors." It is a more formidable enemy than consumption or cancer alone, for scrofula combines the worst possible features of both. Being the most ancient, it is the most general of all diseases or affections, for very few persons are entirely free from it.

How can it be cured? By taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, which, by the cures it has accomplished, often when other medicines have failed, has proven itself to be a potent and peculiar medicine for this disease. For all affections of the blood Hood's Sarsaparilla is unequalled, and some of the cures it has effected are really wonderful. If you suffer from scrofula in any of its various forms, be sure to give Hood's Sarsaparilla a trial.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

INVALIDS' HOTEL AND SURGICAL INSTITUTE

No. 663 Main Street, BUFFALO, N. Y.

Not a Hospital, but a pleasant Remedial Home, organized with

A FULL STAFF OF EIGHTEEN PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS,

And exclusively devoted to the treatment of all Chronic Diseases.

This imposing Establishment was designed and erected to accommodate the large number of invalids who visit Buffalo from every State and Territory, as well as from many foreign lands, that they may avail themselves of the professional services of the Staff of skilled specialists in medicine and surgery that compose the Faculty of this widely-celebrated institution.

A FAIR AND BUSINESS-LIKE OFFER TO INVALIDS.

We earnestly invite you to come, see and examine *for yourself*, our institutions, appliances, advantages and success in curing chronic diseases. Have a mind of your own. Do not listen to or heed the counsel of skeptical friends or jealous physicians, who know nothing of us, our system of treatment, or means of cure, yet who never lose an opportunity to misrepresent and endeavor to prejudice people against us. We are responsible to you for what we represent, and if you come and visit us, and find that we have misrepresented, *in any particular*, our institutions, advantages or success, **we will promptly refund to you all expenses of your trip.** We court honest, sincere investigation, have no secrets, and are only too glad to show all interested and candid people what we are doing for the suffering humanity.

NOT ALWAYS NECESSARY TO SEE PATIENTS.

By our original system of diagnosis, we can treat many chronic diseases just as successfully without as with a personal consultation. While we are always glad to see our patients, and become well acquainted with them, by our system of questions, and familiarize them with our system of treatment, yet we have not seen one person in five hundred whom we have cured. The perfect accuracy with which scientists are enabled to deduce the most minute particulars as to the several organisms, is truly almost miraculous, if we view it in the light of the early ages. Take, for example, the electro-magnetic telegraph, the greatest invention of the age. Is it not a marvelous degree of accuracy which enables an operator to clearly locate a fracture in a submarine cable nearly three thousand miles long? Our venerable "clerk of the weather" has become so thoroughly familiar with the most wayward elements of nature that he can accurately predict their movements. He can sit in Washington and forecast what the weather will be in Florida or New York as well as if several hundred miles did not intervene between him and the places named. And so in all departments of modern science, what is required is the knowledge of certain principles, from which scientists deduce accurate conclusions regardless of distance. So, also, in medical science, diseases have certain unmistakable signs, or symptoms, and by reason of this fact, we have been enabled to originate and put into use a system of determining, with the greatest accuracy, the nature of chronic diseases, without seeing and personally examining our patients. In recognizing diseases without a personal examination of the patient, we claim to possess no miraculous powers. We obtain our knowledge of the patient's disease by the practical application, to the practice of medicine, of well-established principles of modern science. And it is to the accuracy with which this system has endowed us that we owe our almost world-wide reputation of skillfully treating diagnosing or advising, by mail, with success. This system of practice, and the marvelous success which has been attained through it, demonstrate the fact that diseases display certain phenomena, which, being subjected to scientific analysis, afford certain and unmistakable data, to guide the judgment of the skillful practitioner aright in determining the nature of diseased conditions. The most ample resources for treating successfully every chronic disease known to medical skill, are thus placed within the easy reach of every invalid, however distant he or she may reside from the physicians making the treatment of such affections a specialty. Full particulars of our original, scientific system of examining and treating patients as to cases, sent free, contained in **"The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser."** By R. V. Pierce, M.D. 100 pages and over 300 colored and other illustrations. Sent, post-paid, for $1.50. Or write and describe your symptoms, inclosing ten cents in stamps, and a complete treatise, on your particular disease, will be sent you, with our terms for treatment and all particulars.

SIGNS OF DISEASE.

COMMON SENSE AS APPLIED TO MEDICINE.

It is a well-known fact, and one that appeals to the judgment of every thinking person, that the physician who devotes his whole time to the study and investigation of a certain class of diseases, must become better qualified to treat such diseases than he who attempts to treat every ill to which flesh is heir, without giving special attention to any class of diseases. Men, in all ages of the world, who have become famous, have devoted their lives to some special branch of science, art, or literature.

By thorough organization, and subdividing the practice of medicine and surgery in this institution, every invalid is treated by a specialist—one who devotes his undivided attention to the particular class of diseases to which the case belongs. The advantages of this arrangement must be obvious. Medical science offers a vast field for investigation, and no physician can, within the brief limits of a life-time, achieve the highest degree of success in the tre

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mrs. John Jacob Astor is dead.

The universities at Charkoff and Odessa have been closed, owing to the disorders among the students.

Ex-Secretary Daniel Manning is reported critically ill. His physician, Dr. Hunt, is nonconfinded.

Baron Thomas Brassey's yacht, the Sunbeam, on which Lady Brassey died at sea, has arrived at Portsmouth.

The first issue of nickel and silver coinage in France will appear shortly, amounting to 70,000,000 francs.

Mr. Gladstone has written a letter declining to interfere actively in the international arbitration movement.

Ira Paine has completed his 6,000 shots at 50 yards with a pistol, making a grand total of 5,279 out of a possible 6,000, or 107 more than T. E. Bennett recently made.

J. T. Studebaker, the youngest of the Studebaker Bros., died at the Leland hotel, Chicago, of inflammation of the bowels. He had been ill just a week. He was 43 years old.

The Boston branch of the National League of Colored Men have adopted a resolution opposing the confirmation of Secretary Lamar as judge of the Supreme Court of the United States.

On Saturday afternoon the Vienna Boerse wound up in a perfect rout. Securities of all kinds were recklessly thrown on the market. It is estimated that on Friday and Saturday two hundred million florins were lost.

A disease prevailing among the farm horses west of Shane's Crossing, in Mercer county, O., and along the Indiana line, is glanders. A number of horses have died, and farmers at first pronounced it old fashioned distemper.

Bishop Carbery, whose death is reported by cable, was consecrated bishop of Hamilton, Ont., three years ago. He went to Rome last September to attend the Pope's jubilee. He was suddenly taken ill at Cork and died there.

General Thomas Kilby Smith, who died Wednesday in New York, was buried Saturday from his late residence at Torresdale, (Philadelphia.) The funeral was attended by a delegation from the military order of the Loyal Legion.

In pursuance of reports made by military personages to the emperor, William, at his reception on Saturday, a refutation will be issued of the statements printed in the *Intalide Russe*, of St. Petersburg, regarding the German military preparations.

The four anarchists who were hanged November 11—August Spies, A. R. Parsons, Adolph Fischer, Geo. Engel and Louis Lingg (who cheated the gallows), were placed in their final resting place at Waldheim cemetery Sunday. There was no disorder.

Senator Voorhees does not favor a reduction of the tax on spirits. He is willing to repeal the tax on tobacco except cigars and cigarettes. Mr. Voorhees says he stands on the Democratic platform of 1884 and thinks President Cleveland has not departed from it.

The chief of police, of Knoxville, Tenn., has found bonds to the amount of $10,500 secreted under the floor of a house recently occupied by burglars who were captured last week. The bonds are part of $55,000 stolen in Tompkinsville, Ky., a few weeks ago.

Aubertin, the man who attempted to assassinate M. Ferry in the hall of the Chamber of Deputies, was arraigned before a magistrate for a preliminary examination to-day. While the examination was progressing the prisoner was attacked with dementia, and he was remanded to a mad house.

The explosion of a boiler in the Edison Electric company's works at Westchester, Pa., caused the death of five persons, and injury of three others. The boiler was lifted from its foundations and propelled 30 feet, passing through the base of a 90 foot smoke stack which at once fell.

The Dublin *Express* says that the Duke of Norfolk and Sir George Errington, both of whom are prominent Catholics, declined to sign the address, which is to be presented by English Catholics to Mgr. Persico in favor of Home Rule for Ireland. It says also that Cardinal Manning is debarred by etiquette from signing it.

Workmen in the new opera house at Marshalltown, Ia., found a gas pipe with fuse attached in an unfinished brick. Officers took the bomb to the outskirts of the city, placed it under the roots of a large tree, and lighted the fuse. It exploded with terrific force, tearing the trees in the vicinity to shreds and splinters. It tore a great hole through the sheriff's overcoat.

At the Federation of Labor convention the officers elected were: Samuel Gompers, New York, president; Daniel McLaughlin, representing Illinois Miners association, first vice president; William Martin, of the Amalgamated Iron and Steel works, second vice president; P. J. McGuire, Philadelphia, secretary; Gabriel Edmonson, Washington, treasurer. They will hold the next convention at St. Louis.

Though officers of Knights of Pythias have been very reticent, it has become known that there is a possibility of trouble to come. It appears some time ago Supreme Chancellor Howard Douglass instructed all grand lodges to change their constitutions so as to be in accord with the Supreme laws, and pointed out the discrepancies. As far as heard from all states, excepting Illinois, Nebraska, Delaware, Oregon and Pennsylvania, had complied. Illinois at last accounts had not complied, and the Supreme Chancellor has issued a notice to the grand lodge of Pennsylvania, informing them that if the instructions are not complied with he will suspend that grand jurisdiction.

The regular quarterly meeting of the directors of the Western Union Telegraph dompany was held to-day. President Green submitted his quarterly report which shows: Surplus Oct. 1 1887, $7,354,639.35. The net revenues of the quarter ending December 31, based upon nearly completed returns for October partial returns for November, and estimating the business for December, will be about $1,500,000. Add surplus, October 1, as above, $7,-354,569.35. Total, $8,854,569.39. From which, appropriating for interest on bonds and sinking funds $142,650, leaves a balance of $8,711,918.35. It requires for a dividend of 1¼ per cent. on the capital stock, $1,077,343.-75, deducting which, leaves a surplus, after paying dividend, of $7,634,575.60.

BUSINESS BAROMETER.

R. G. Dunn & Co's. Weekly Review of Trade and Collections.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—R. G. Dun & Co's. weekly review of trade says: There is a clear, though moderate improvement, in the commercial industrial outlook, mainly due to the growing confidence that Congress will think to do nothing prejudicial to business interests.

At the same time, it is, in many points, observed that the uncertainty in regard to the action of Congress tends to restrict purchases, and contributes to a weekness in some markets.

Monetary anxieties diminish and speculation in products abates. Iron production, by many considered a true barometer of business, falls a little below the unprecedented output or November 1.

It is held that the new sales of rails for next year do not yet aggregate more than 100,000 tons; large buyers still hold off.

A statement that a single sale was made on terms netting $31 is questioned, and transactions aggregating 22,000 tons are reported at $32.

Fine wools are quiet. Medium wools stronger, though sales at low figures by weak parties are still to be mentioned. Growers express confidence that no reduction of duties will be made, but the manufacturing demand does not answer the expectations.

The dry goods trade is very moderate in all branches, and is particularly dull in woolens, and the stiffness in cotton is attributed to a scarcity of ready supplies rather than to large fresh orders.

The boot and shoe trade improves, with better western and good southern business.

The leather market still favors buyers.

The curtailment in pork packing is given as a reason for the speculative strength in the pork products, though hogs are lower.

Breadstuffs have declined, wheat about 3½ cents during the past week, corn 2¾ cents, oats a fraction.

Exports of wheat and flour for five months ending with November fall below those of the corresponding months last year. The decrease which appears in November, if continued through the crop year, would leave a large unsold surplus to be carried over July 1.

Oil has not materially changed. Cotton is a shade stronger. There is no lack of money to check the speculative activity. On call the supply is abundant, and the large demand for money on time is now fairly met.

Interior reports all indicate less monetary pressure, though the market at some points is still close. Complaints of slow collections continue, but are less general. The past pressure is reflected, however, in the unusual large number of failures.

Foreign trade improves.

The stock market declined on an average of about 70 cents per share and grows dull.

Business failures during the last seven days number for the United States 254, for Canada 34, or a total of 288, as against 224 last week, and 288 for the corresponding week last year.

POOR EX-SENATOR JONES.

He Still Remains a Self-Imposed Visitor at Detective O'Neill's Home.

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 17.—Senator Jones' two sons, who have been here for a month urging their father to abandon his mad folly and return to the South, have given up in despair, and left this evening for Washington. Senator Jones is still a self-imposed guest at the home of Detective O'Neill, but the latter, who is a poor man, says he cannot afford to provide longer for the senator, whose trappings will be set out doors this week.

The authorities will then take charge of the unfortunate Jones. He will be sent to the county house, and an effort will be then made to have him transferred to the National asyium at Washington. Failing in this, the Senator will be sent to the asylum at Pontiac as a county charge. The Senator continues to rave at his imaginary enemies, among whom are Blaine, Sherman, Allison, Beck and Cameron, and his threats are frequently blood-curdling.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH.

Senator Cullom's Bill to Regulate the Question of Government Telegraphy.

WASHINGTON, Ded. 14.—The postal telegraph system introduced by Senator Cullom to-day establishes the United States postal telegraph "as a part of the postal system of the United States, and for the purpose of inaugurating the system provides that the following telegraph trunk lines shall first be constructed: One from Washington, D. C., to Portland, Me., via Baltimore, Wilmington, Philadelphia, Camden, Trenton, Newark, Jersey City, New York, Brooklyn, New Haven, Hartford, Providence and Boston; one from Washington to Minneapolis via Pittsburg Cleveland, Toledo, Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison, LaCrosse and St. Paul; one from New York city to Cleveland via Albany, Utica, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo and Erie, Pa.; one from Pittsburg to Topeka, Kan., via Columbus, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, St. Louis and Kansas City and minor towns near the large cities; one from Toledo to Detroit; one from Washington to Galveston via Richmond, Charlotte, Columbia, S. C., Augusta and Atlanta, Montgomery and New Orleans; one from Chicago to New Orleans via Indianapolis, Louisville, Nashville, Memphis and Vicksburg; one from Chicago to St. Louis via Peoria and Springfield; one from Chicago to San Francisco, via Des Moines, Omaha, Cheyenne, Salt Lake City, Carson City, and other towns on route; and one from Cheyenne to Denver.

Postal telegraph offices are to be opened at the places named and at all intermediate points at which first, second or third-class postoffices are established.

Branch lines, it provides, shall be constructed from time to time as appropriations therefor are made by Congress, the intention being to connect the lines with all cities where the postal free delivery system prevails, but no additional facilities will be provided in states already connected with the trunk lines until postal telegraph offices have been established in every state and territory. The system is to be constructed in straight lines, as near as practicable, but regard is to be taken of cities that will afford the best telegraphic facilities to the public.

The lines are to be constructed by the engineer corps of the army and then transferred to the custody of the postmaster general. The poles are to be of iron, the wires of copper, and all other materials of the best obtainable. Eight wires are to be strung on the line from New York to Chicago, and four upon other lines. The secretary of war is authorized to use the military service lines of the United States, as far as expedient, and also to make all necessary condemnations of lands or buildings at a fair compensation.

All disputes as to what is a fair compensation are to be settled by the court of claims. The secretary is further authorized to construct, take and use all machinery and devices, not including telegraph lines, whether patented or not, as shall be deemed necessary, the compensation to be determined in the same manner as condemnations of land. The sums of money necessary for this purpose are appropriated by the bill.

A rate of ten cents for each twenty, words and five cents for each additional ten words is fixed for a distance of 500 miles, and an additional rate of five cents for each 250 miles over 500. A night rate of 35 cents and a day rate of 75 cents is fixed for each 100 words transmitted for newspapers, except that where the same dispatch is dropped off at more than one office, the rates shall be 25 to 50 cents respectively for each dropped copy. The office of director general of telegraphs is created as a part of the postoffice department.

It is made the duty of the postmaster-general to report to congress after the passage of the act a plan for the complete organization of the postal telegraph system, with detailed estimates of men and money needed. Before the system is put into operation end employes selected examinations are to be held by the civil service commission to determine the fitness of applicants.

Four million dollars is appropriated for the location and construction of the telegraph lines provided for the act.

SENATOR FARWELL'S PLAN.

He Would Exclude All Foreigners Not Rich Enough to Live Six Months Without Labor.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Senator Farwell's bill on immigration is a subject of much comment here, and its good and bad features are discussed freely. The bill reads:

"SECTION 1.—That the immigration of convicts, paupers, idiots and insane persons from any foreign country into the United States is hereby prohibited, this act to take effect ninety days after its passage and approval.

"Sec. 2. That any immigrant who shall come by steam or sailing vessel from a foreign port to any port within the United States shall, before being permitted to land, exhibit to a proper officer to be designated for that purpose by the secretary of the Treasury a certificate from the United States Consul at the port of clearance of said vessel, stating that said immigrant is not a convict, pauper, idiot or insane person, and that he is possessed of sufficient means to support himself for the period of six months

"If any such immigrant shall be the head of a family with whom he is immigrating into the United States, then such certificate shall state that fact, give the number, age and relationship of the members of said family, and shall further state that the head of said family is not a convict, pauper, idiot or insane person, and that he is possessed of sufficient means to support himself and said family for the period of six months.

"Sec. 3. That all persons not exhibiting such certificates shall be returned to the country from whence they came, in the same manner as provided for the return of certain persons in the act of Congress entitled "An Act to Regulate Immigration," approved August 3, 1882.

"Sec. 4. That any master of any vessel who shall accept any immigrant as a passenger or attempt to land any immigrant who has not first procured the certificate herein provided for shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thefore shall be punished by a fine not exceeding $1,000 for each person so found without such certificate and may also be imprisoned for a term not exceeding one year."

FOR HONEST ELECTIONS.

Senator Chandler's Bill to Correct Injustices in Four Southern States.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Senator Chandler has introduced a bill to regulate the holding of congressional elections in South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana. It provides for the appointment by the President, with the advice and consent of the senate, of four supervisors of election for each congressional districts in the states to which the measure applies, who are required to subdivide the districts into a sufficient number of voting precincts

In each precinct the Circuit Court of the United States is to appoint four inspectors and two poll clerks, who are to make a registration of the voters and conduct congressional elections. The supervisors are not to act as a canvassing board to receive the returns from the inspectors and ascertain and declare the result of the election. The supervisors, inspectors and poll clerks are to be divided equally between the two principal political parties. The measure is made applicable only to the states of South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana.

It is elaborately drawn and contains minute provisions governing the whole matter of registration and conduct of elections, together with penalties for certain frauds.

To a reporter who asked for an explanation of the theory and purpose of the bill, Mr. Chandler said it was drawn under that clause of the constitution which provides that the times, places and manner of holding elections for representatives in congress shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof, but congress may by law make or alter such regulations. He said the constitutional power is ample either to pass a general law for all states, fine applicable to a number of states, or a special law in respect to any particular state.

In reply to a query as to his purpose in limiting the operation of the measure to the four states named, he said: "It is my desire to secure it possible the passage of a national election law in those states where there is a manifest and avowed suppression of Republican suffrage. In Louisiana Democratic leaders declare their intention not to allow colored people to vote the Republican ticket, and have also asserted their intention to settle this question without the slightest regard to Northern sentiment on the subject.

"Hence I think that both Northern sentiment and interest should lead to the passage of a law to limit the suppression of the suffrage to elections for state offices and give us free suffrage for national offices."

Mr. Chandler and his measures did not cover Presidential electors, for the reason that the constitution gave no authority for it. He expressed belief that the bill, or a similar one, will pass the Senate, and hopes that it may pass the House.

THE PENISON QUESTION.

Preparing for Legislation to Care for the Union's Defenders.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 15.—The chief points in the Grand Army of the Republic Pension bill introduced by Senator Manderson, are in making provisions for pensions to all veterans who are, or may hereafter become, unable to earn their own livelihood; for a direct continuance of pensions for widows in their own rights; for an increase in the amounts paid to minor children; and for fathers or mothers from any date of dependence.

The latter provision is the one which bears the strongest resemblance to the dependent bill vetoed by the President last session, though the pauper clause is omitted and one substituted which makes the measure a disability rather than a dependent bill. The object of the bill is to put into the general pension laws the recognition of the principle that pensions may be granted to survivors of the late war without absolute proof of disability arising from the service, which proof, it is claimed, is almost impossible to get after the lapse of more than twenty years.

Senator Ingalls's bill removes the limitation entirely on the Arrearages act. It is the one which the Senate, shortly before adjournment, directed the Pensions committee to report out to the Senate. Under it those who failed to get in their applications before June, 1879, the limit of the old Arrearages act, but filed them afterward, would get pensions from the time of filing. Among the more important measures to come before this session of Congress will be a bill making a thorough revision and simplification of the pension laws.

The pension laws are of as many different kinds as there are patent churns. One of the objects will be to lessen the burden of the applicants in the matter of furnishing proof to the department necessary to obtaining the pension rightly applied for.

The commissioner of pensions in his last report recommends the abolishment of many abuses which he believes to exist, and asks that Congress make necessary reforms.

MR. BLAINE'S POSITION.

He Does Not Want To Be a Candidate for the Presidency.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—"Mr. Blaine does not want a renomination."

"Do you really think that?"

"I don't think it—I know it. I know what he thinks and how he feels about it. Think of the personal sufferings of the last campaign; of all his political career, of course, but especially of the last campaign—the false and malicious and scandalous and vile charges made against him. No wonder the man shrinks from another fight with all that it implies."

It was Senator Frye, of Maine, who said this. He sat in his parlor on Sixteenth street, a handsome man with iron-grey whiskers, a pleasant talker, full of facts and ideas and easy in his way of expressing them. We had been talking of Cincinnati, where our acquaintance began. "That was in '76," he said. "That was an uncomfortable experience out there, too. Hot and dusty and smoky, and, above all, our anxiety caused by Mr. Blaine's stroke on that eventful Sunday."

"Do you think he has ever fully recovered from that attack?"

"Oh, yes," he answered, "I think he has; I think he is in perfect health, both physically and mentally. See how quickly and vigorously he grasped the opportunity to speak out for the true doctrine of our party when the President's message was laid before him. He couldn't help it. That is the kind of a man he is. He is prompt and vigorous. That reply of his was not made for any bid for the nomination, but just because he couldn't help making it. He saw where the issue ought to be joined, as between the two parties, and he made the issue promptly and clearly."

FOUR NEW STATES.

Dakota, Montana, Washington and Utah May be Taken In.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—There is every indication that the territories of Dakota, Washington, Montana and possibly Utah, will be admitted into statehood. While Utah has adopted a new constitution which prohibits the perpetuity of polygamy within the territory, Congress will make the provision that in the event of the territory's admission into the union of states, that clause of the constitution cannot be disturbed without the consent of Congress.

It matters not, however, if they are admitted at this session, they will not be granted the right of national franchise until 1892.

LAMAR IN THE BALANCE.

The Judiciary Committee Consider His Political Record.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 19.—Senator Edmunds, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, who wishes to leave to-morrow for the South, determined late yesterday to have a meeting of his committee this morning, and issued the call at once.

All members but Senator Evarts, who is out of town, were present. The nomination of Mr. Lamar was taken up, and his political record was discussed.

Sen. Pugh appeared as the foremost champion of the nominee, addressing his colleagues at considerable length in justification of Mr. Lamar's past course.

The hour for the meeting of the Senate arrived before the subject had been exhausted and its further consideration was postponed until after the holiday recess.

The nomination of Mr. Vilas was not reached.

THE TARIFF BILL.

Some of the Things It Will and Will Not Contain.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The administration tariff bill, which will go before the Ways and Means committee with the endorsement of Speaker Carlisle, after the holiday recess, as the basis of revenue reform, contemplates a reduction of $62,000,000 annual revenue. Of this amount $30,000,000 to come from the reduction of duties, chiefly on manufactures, and $12,000,000 from adding wool, salt, lumber, coal, etc., to the free list.

The bill aims at a very extensive revision of present methods of administering the tariff law, and at remedying inconsistencies and inequalities in the law, as well as a general reduction of the high rate of tariff taxes. It proposes the substitution of specific for ad valorem rates where the latter are difficult of enforcement. In the chemical, earthen, and glassware schedules numerous judicious reductions are proposed.

In metals material reductions of iron and steel are recommended. In the wool and woolen schedule, raw wool being made free, the rates on woolen fabrics were so reduced as to take away about $10,000,000 upon the basis of last year's importations. Inconsistencies as to rates on worsted and woolen cloths are corrected, and here occurs some of the most imported changes proposed in the bill.

The bill embraces the schedules prepared for Congress last winter by Secretary Fairchild, substituting specific for ad valorem duties on silks, gloves, and embroideries. It also includes the Hewitt plan for reform of the customs administrative service, with some changes and additions suggested by treasury experience since Mr. Hewitt's bill was first introduced. The measure, it is said, is the result of incalculable labor and care, and is the outgrowth of years of study and experience on the part of treasury experts.

IMPORTED CONTRACT LABOR.

A Move in the House to Head off the Undesirable Belgian Miners.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—In the House today Mr. Brumm, of Pennsylvania, offered a preamble and resolution reciting that it is commonly reported that the coal operators in the Lehigh region are now importing, or are about to import, 2,000 Belgian miners under contract, to take the place of miners now on strike in that section, that the striking miners have used every endeavor to have a settlement of the differences by arbitration, and that the operators have positively refused to enter into arbitration.

He then requested the President to notify the officials of the treasury department of these facts and urge them to use special efforts to prevent the landing of the Belgian miners, and to see that the law against the importation of labor under contract is strictly enforced. The matter was referred to the committee on labor.

CONGRESS.

Italy Makes a Proposition—Bills Introduced and Referred.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Among the papers laid before the Senate was a communication from Italian residents of Washington proposing to present to the United States a marble butt of Garibaldi, as "a link in the chain of sympathy which all free men feel for the champions of liberty and Republican government." Referred to the committee on Library.

Bills were introduced and referred as follows:

By Mr. Call—To prohibit United States judges and courts from authorizing the borrowing of money by receivers of railroads and other coporations beyond the amount of their annual net income; also to prohibit the appointment of such receivers without evidence of the financial condition of the company. He moved their reference to the committee on inter-state commerce.

Mr Edmunds moved their reference to the Judiciary committee.

Mr. Call opposed that reference, on the ground that like bills had been before that committee last Congress and had received no attention. His opinion was that no relief would be afforded to the people by the Judiciary committee in the consideration of bills of such a character.

Mr. Edmunds confessed that the judiciary committee was not very much inclined to interfere with the exercise of discretion by the courts. He withdrew his amendment. The bills were thereupon referred to the committee on inter-state commerce.

The Report on the Alaskan Seal Islands Referred—The House Committee on Rules.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Among the papers presented to the Senate was a communication from the secretary of the Treasury with a copy of the report of Special Agent Tingle, on the condition of affairs on the Seal Islands of Alaska. Referred to the committee on Foreign Relations.

Also a like communication enclosing copies of papers relating to the recent bonding of the Pacific Coast Steamship company. Committee on Commerce.

Also, memorial of the constitutional convention of the territory of Utah, asking admission into the Union as a state, with copies of the constitution. Referred to the committee on Territories.

Among bills introduced and referred were the following: By Mr. Frye—For the collection of more accurate statistics of exports, emigration and immigration.

The following bills were reported favorably from the committees and placed on the calendar:

To establish two additional land offices in Colorado; to provide in certain cases for the forfeiture of wagon road grants in Oregon; granting to the state of California five per cent. of the net proceeds of cash sales of public lands in that state; to amend the law concerning the commission of fish and fisheries; to aid in the establishment and temporary support of the common schools, and to enable the state of California to take lands in lieu of the 16th and 36th sections found to be mineral.

The House.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The Speaker announced the appointment of the committee on Rules, as follows: The Speaker, Messrs. Randall, Mills, Reed and Cannon.

Adjourned to to-morrow.

REPUBLICAN CLUBS.

The Opening of the Convention in New York City To-Day.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—(Special.)—The national convention of Republican clubs is of the nature of a genuine surprise to New Yorkers. They did not anticipate a gathering, national in importance and numbers.

Ohio, as usual, comes to the front, having more delegates present than any other state, save New York.

Chickering Hall is packed to the doors with an enthusiastic throng of delegates and a vast crowd of interested would-be spectators are crowded out in the steady rain which has been falling all day.

The Ohio delegation held a meeting previous to the assembling of the convention and much feeling was evinced over the arrangement to make Senator Evarts permanent chairman of the convention.

They remember bitterly Evarts's action in the Payne investigation in the Senate, in countenancing bribery by which that coal oil magnate secured a seat in the Senate, and they consider a better choice could have been made.

A formal resolution was adopted that the Ohio member of the committee on permanent organization should vote against Mr. Evarts.

Before the convention was called to order Evarts got wind of the action and visited the Ohio delegates in their seats, and had a genial chat with them.

New York reporters were busy last night and this morning, endeavoring to obtain opinions as to presidential candidates.

Delegates frequently refused to talk for publication, as they desire to avoid anything that looks like a boom for any particular candidate.

Some careful inquiry, however, among leading men of different delegations, shows a preponderence of Blaine sentiment.

A significant fact is, that Robert Lincoln is the second choice of many, should Blaine decline, or a deadlock occur between him and Sherman.

The selection of Evarts as permanent chairman was at first strenuously objected to by many on the ground that he is a Presidential quantity.

This, however, was met by positive assurance that he will not allow the use of his name and has definitely abandoned Presidential aspirations.

On the subject of the President's message the general opinion of the delegates seems overwhelmingly in favor of making the issue of the next year's election the single one of protection against free trade, letting all other matters fall into abeyance until the question of a national industrial policy shall be definitely settled.

Connecticut and New Jersey delegates say their states will go strong Republican on the protective issue.

Senator Evarts Made Permanent Chairman of the Convention.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—When the delegates to the convention of Republican clubs began to file into Chickering Hall to-day, it was remarked that they wore a more confident air than yesterday when the battalions were disordered and headless.

The idea of a federation of clubs centralized and obedient to the touch of a directing hand, was before every eye.

At the reading of the names of the different clubs present was greeted for cheering their names when suggestive. There was 313 club names to read and the cheering was almost continuous, as the following names were repeated: John Sherman, U. S. Grant, Charles Sumner, John A. Logan, Ben Wade, Abraham Lincoln and James G. Blaine.

The last name was greeted with tremendous cheering, but it was noticed that some delegates did not join in it.

The Ohio delegation was silent and motionless.

"What's the matter with Ohio?" was asked, and the cheering was repeated, but Ohio said not a word.

The report of the committee on credentials, after the reading of the names of clubs, was adopted.

Gen. John C. Robinson, Grant club of Binghampton, N. Y., offered the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That it is the duty of the government to place our country in such a state of defense as will command the respect of all nations, and for this purpose a large portion of the surplus revenue should be devoted to fortifying our harbors, building ships for our navy and the manufacture of modern artillery for the proper armament of the same."

All resolutions offered were referred without debate to the committee on Resolutions.

Mr. Birdsall, of Binghamton, said he had a resolution.

The chairman said Mr. Burchard had a resolution, which brought down the house.

It was a resolution that advised that the tax on whisky and tobacco be distributed among the states according to population to reduce the surplus.

Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, offered the following resolution, which caused a sensation:

"WHEREAS, It is the opinion of this national convention of Republican clubs that no man who at any time denounced Abraham Lincoln while he was President of the United States as a 'buffoon and clown,' or whoever declared from his seat in the United States Senate that no man should denounce Jefferson Davis as a traitor, in his presence, and go unrebuked by him, or who in his official capacity as secretary of the interior ordered that the flag of the United States shall be displayed at half-mast on the occasion of the death of Jacob Thompson, or who, as a Senator of the United States many years after the war, refused to vote that the 13th and 14th and 15th amendments to the constitution are valid and binding, ought to be appointed to, or hold the high office of Justice of the Supreme court of the United States; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That I. Q. C. Lamar ought not to have been appointed justice of said court."

It was then carried on motion that all resolutions should be referred to the committee on Resolutions without being read. A number were so disposed of.

Soon Wm. M. Evarts, the permanent chairman, came on the platform amid tremendous and long continued applause.

Jas. Boyle, of Ohio, chairman of the committee on Permanent Organization, reported. He said the committee had been confronted by three propositions. The first was whether it was wise and practicable to form a nation league of Republican clubs. The decision reached was in the affirmative.

The second proposition was in regard to the formation of state leagues. It was resolved that the proper course to be adopted was to suggest to the gentlemen from the several states a plan of organization and to leave it to their discretion.

The third was whether it was proper for the committee to go into the matter of local club organization.

It was decided that the matter be left entirely to various committees of the different local cities.

Mr. Boyle said the New York Republican club had submitted to the committee plans for the formation of national and state leagues, and that they had been adopted.

GEORGE FOR CLEVELAND.

He Admires the Free Trade Message of the President, Regrets that Cleveland Did Not Declare for it Absolutely.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—[Special wire.]—Henry George lectured at the Academy of Music last night. "I thank God," said he, "for Grover Cleveland's message. It was not the message of a Hebrew prophet. A Hebrew prophet would not expect a renomination by the Democracy. Nor was it the message of a free trader.

"It was the message of a President of the United States who is inclined toward free trade.

"It is an anti-protection message.

"Mr. Cleveland is as yet afraid of his horses. But if I mistake not, when he lets them drive, they will carry him much further than he now believes.

"I am glad of the message. Why? Because of the great work it is doing. Aye, the great work it has already done.

"It has brought the question of free trade before the public. No longer will be the discussion as to how much to raise or lower the tariff. It is now, whether it be protection or free trade.

"I am as glad of Cleveland's bringing this question into pol tics as I would have been if our most sanguine hopes had been realized in the last election, and I believe we ourselves have largely contributed toward bringing the question up."

ST. JOHN ON BLAINE.

The Prohibitionist Assails the Tobacco Idea of the Man From Maine.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—James G. Blaine and Mayor Hewitt received special attention from Prohibitionist ex-Governor John P. St. John in Cooper Union yesterday. Mr. St. John addressed the Manhattan Temperance union. "The greatest men are said to sometimes make the greatest blunders," said Mr. St. John, "if so the reputation of James G. Blaine for greatness has been thoroughly established by the egregious blunders he has made.

"His latest blunder appears in an interview published in the *Tribune*, his personal organ, where he advocates the repeal of the tax on tobacco on the ground that millions of men use tobacco and therefore it is a necessity.

"Mr. Blaine," continued the speaker, "opposes the removal of the tax on the liquor traffic, because it would destroy the excellent high license laws some of the states have. Thank God we have smoked him out on that question."

Continuing, the speaker said: "The sooner the high license laws are destroyed the better. This statesman says he opposes the abolition of the whisky tax because its consumption would thereby be increased. Then, does not this apply to tobacco also?

"Ah, but Mr. Blaine avers tobacco is a necessity, because, as he says, 95 out of 100 use the weed. If there was the same proportion of rum drinkers and gamblers and blasphemers, would rum, swearing and gambling houses be necessities too? We appeal to our boys to throw away the accursed and health-destroying cigarette. He replies it is a necessity."

FOR JUNE 6.

The National Prohibition Convention Called for Indianapolis.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—To the Prohibition electors of the United States:

In accordance with the action of the National committee of the Prohibition party and in harmony with instructions of the Prohibition National convention of 1884, the national convention of the Prohibition party will be held in the city of Indianapolis, Ind., Wednesday, June 6, 1888, at 10 a. m., for the purpose of nominating candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, and for the transaction of such other business as may be properly presented.

All citizens of this republic who believe the traffic in intoxicating drinks is a national disgrace and a national scourge; that is destructive of wealth producing power; that it robs labor, destroys capital, debauches society, corrupts politics; that it defies restraint, encourages lawlessness and fosters anarchists; who are convinced that this desirable reform needs for its championship the responsible agency of a political party clearly committed thereto as a matter of principle and not as a matter of expediency; who favor a general progressive system of popular education; who believe the ballot in hand of women will be the death knell of the liquor trade; in short, all citizens, however they may differ upon other questions, who are agreed upon the wisdom and necessity of separate political action, in order to secure the overthrow of the rum power, are requested to secure the overthrow of the rum power, are requested to unite under this bill in sending representatives to the national committee.

The basis of representation has been fixed by the national committee of follows: One delegate from the District of Columbia, two from each territory and from each state twice as many as the representation of the state in both branches of the national Congress. The delegates are to be chosen by such methods as may be decided upon by the state committee or state committees, and in the District of Columbia and territories by corresponding authority. It is desirable that a fair proportion of ladies be sent as delegates.

SAMUEL DICKIE, chairman.
J. A. VAN FLEET, secretary.

BELIEVES IN BLAINE.

A Postmaster from Maine who Swears by the New England Statesman.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—[Special wire.]—Postmaster Joseph Manley, of Augusta, Me., is in town. He is here as a delegate to the Republican club convention. In an interview yesterday he said:

"I have no doubt but Mr. Blaine will be nominated at Chicago, and by acclamation, because Republicans in every section of the land regard his nomination as the strongest one that can be made.

"Of course, I don't know what Mr Blaine will do, but I believe he is too much of a patriot and too good a Republican, whatever his private wishes and desires may be, to decline such a call made upon him."

TAKING ARMS.

The Oklahoma Boomers Preparing to do Battle Against the Government.

WICHITA, Ks., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—Investigation at the headquarters of the Oklahoma boomers at this point shows that many recruits are paying $25 each to become members of the Oklahoma settlers association.

Though the utmost secrecy is to be preserved, it has been learned that the intention is to raise at least 5,000 stand of arms to be distributed among those boomers having none, and should Congress not throw open the coveted land before April 1, the leaders will take forcible possession and resist any attempt to dislodge them.

A HIGH LICENSE.

$1,500 for Retailers in Atlanta—Saloons Restricted to Certain Streets.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 14.—The city council has fixed $1,500 as the cost of a retail liquor sellers' license. The ordinance restricts saloons to certain streets and provides for strict regulation.

Three Bushels of Guineas.

ST JOHN, N. B., Dec. 15.—[Special wire.]—The story of the finding of a buried treasure at St. Martin's has caused a sensation. The amount of the find up to the present time is stated to be several bushels. Only two persons are acquainted with the location of the treasure.

One of these was in the city yesterday, and had an interview with Cashier Girvan, of the Bank of New Brunswick, with a view of ascertaining the value of the find and how to realize on it. He told Girvan that it was in the shape of guineas, bearing date of 1765.

Don't Touch the Wool Tariff.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Dec. 20.—[Special wire.]—Prominent wool growers met here yesterday and adopted resolutions condemning any effort of the reduction of the tariff on wool, and urging upon Congress the necessity of retaining the present rate of duty.

The resolutions set forth that the present rate should be maintained on account of the depressed state of the wool growing interests and the fact that Australia, the principal competitor in the American wool markets, has for years been prohibiting the introduction into that country of American merino sheep.

Copper in Vermont.

NORTH ADAMS, Mass., Dec. 15.—[Special wire.]—The geographical surveyors working in this section found a rich outcrop of copper in the vicinity of Stamford, Vermont, which they proceeded to develops.

They now have a shaft sunk to a considerable depth with such results that work has been pushed vigorously. It is not yet certain how rich the find will prove to be, but those who put money in the scheme are well satisfied.

Liquor Decision.

AUGUSTA, Me., Dec. 15.—The Superior court of Kennebec county, has declared the law making the payment of the United States special tax as a liquor seller, prima-facie evidence that the party paying such tax is a saloon-keeper, and therefore a public nuisance, to be unconstitutional.

R. R. R.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

in from one to twenty minutes never fails to relieve pain with one thorough application. No matter how violent or excruciating the pain the Rheumatic, Bedridden, Infirm, Crippled, Nervous, Neuralgic or prostrated with disease may suffer, Radway's Ready Relief will afford instant ease. It instantly relieves and soon cures

Rheumatism,	**Neuralgia,**
Coughs,	**Colds,**
Asthma,	**Sore Throat,**
Pneumonia,	**Bronchitis,**
Headache,	**Sciatica,**
Toothache,	**Lumbago.**

DIFFICULT BREATHING.

Sprains, Bruises, Pains in the Back, Chest or Limbs. It was the first and is the Only

PAIN REMEDY

that instantly stops the most excruciating pains, allays inflammation and cures Congestions, whether of the Lungs, Stomach, Bowels or other glands or organs.

INTERNALLY—A half to a teaspoonful in half a tumbler of water will, in a few minutes, cure Cramps, Spasms, Sour Stomach, Nausea, Vomiting, Heartburn, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Sick Headache, Diarrhœa, Colic, Flatulency and all internal Pains.

Price, 50 cents per bottle. Sold by druggists.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Why Russia Enlarged Her Frontier Force in Russian-Poland.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 15.—The *Officia Military Gazette* says: "Owing to the alarm raised by the Austrian press in consequence of the transfer of some Russian cavalry to to the Warsaw district, it is advisable to consider the military position of Rusia and her western frontier neighbors in order to throw light upon the question of who is ready preparing to atttack and who for defence.

"During the past five years the peace effective of the German army has been increased 65 battalions and 384 guns. The German troops on the Russian frontier have been increased 21 battalions of infantry, 25 battalions of artillery and 15 squadrons of cavalry.

"Since 1878 Germany has built, in the eastern provinces, 4,850 kilometers of railroads. There are eleven German railroaes by means of which troops can be forwarded to the frontier and ten junction stations where they can be rapidly thrown out of trains and concentrated.

"Germany has formed first-class fortresses at Thorn, Posen, Dantzic, and Konigsberg, and is building a similar fortress at Grand